

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS

Stamped Edition, 6d.



No. 842.—VOL. XXX.]

SATURDAY, JANUARY 31, 1857.

[WITH A SUPPLEMENT, FIVEPENCE.]

THE OPENING OF PARLIAMENT.

THERE is always, according to some persons; a crisis in the national fortunes, and the Parliament that is about to assemble is always charged with duties more important than ever devolved upon Parliament in days gone by. The estimate may, to the philosophic mind, appear ridiculous, but it is, nevertheless, natural. A crisis, or what was supposed to be a crisis, is speedily forgotten—sometimes before we have well got through it; and no business which has been settled a year, or even a week ago, is equal in magnitude to the business upon which tongues have yet to wag and passions to be excited. The public will, therefore, suppose in 1857 as they supposed in 1856, that a new February and a new Crisis take possession of the world together; and that the second month of the year is no more to be dissociated from serious business than April from its showers, or May from its pleasanter gifts of buds and blossoms.

The Queen will not this year grace the opening of Parliament with her presence. The chief topics of the Speech which will be read in her Majesty's name by the Lord Chancellor may easily be anticipated. The conclusion of the war in the Crimea; the desirability of such reforms in Turkey as will tend to strengthen the empire at home and make it respected abroad; the settlement of the quarrel of the King of Prussia with the Swiss Republic; the happy continuance and increasing cordiality of the alliance of Great Britain

and France; the approaching evacuation of the Grecian territories and waters by the armies of France and the navies of England; and a vague allusion to the affairs of Naples;—each of these will form the subject of a paragraph which the two Houses of Parliament will hear with attention, and re-echo with more or less unanimity of approval.

Asiatic affairs demand, and will indubitably receive, especial mention, although the public will have to await the debates on the Address for the explanation which Ministers are bound to give of the causes which have produced the almost simultaneous rupture of our pre-existing amity with the two celebrated empires of Persia and China. Scarcely any man of public note has had the temerity to declare that the last or the present Administration sought war in Europe, or left untried any honourable means to prevent it. We believe that, when the facts shall be made known, a similar unwillingness to make war will be found to have influenced the deliberations and the resolves of those who are charged with the government of our Asiatic empire; and that the war with China, like the war with Persia, was only undertaken when it had become obviously and palpably impossible to avoid it without dishonour and danger. We may be certain, too, that hostilities will be conducted with the energy befitting a great people; and we may reasonably indulge the hope that the issue of

these wars will be conducive not only to the future peace of Asia but to the permanent advantage of the Persian and Chinese nations.

We may also expect that the affairs of the United States of America, in so far as the politics of Great Britain are connected with them, will afford materials for the most graceful as well as the most grateful paragraph of the Royal Speech. The temporary estrangement—not between the two nations, but between those who were at the head of affairs in each—has been removed; the diplomatic relations, which were never interrupted in London, thanks to the good feeling, no less than to the good sense, of the Palmerston Administration, have been renewed in Washington; and the Government of the United States receives in the person of Lord Napier an English Ambassador whom all parties will be delighted to honour. Under his auspices, supported as he will be by the remembrance of the *Resolute*, so honourable to both nations, the last traces of coldness and estrangement will disappear. We may hope at the same time that the foundations of an Anglo-American alliance will be laid—an alliance greater and nobler and more auspicious for humanity—than any possible European alliances, either present or prospective; but it is almost too much to hope that expression to such a sentiment will be given in so stiff and formal a document as a Royal Message. But, as the Ministers in their public or private character have greater latitude, it is not impossible that



CHINESE PIRATE-BOAT AT CANTON.—FROM A DRAWING BY A CHINESE ARTIST.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

some such happy departure from routine may signalise the debates of the approaching week. The alliance of England and France, although a great fact, is not the greatest possible. America may not yet be ready to join it; but the day may come when even this master-stroke of policy may be accomplished.

The domestic affairs of the country will probably receive but little notice in the Royal Speech—if we except the two questions of National Education and the Transportation and Reformation of Criminals. When such men as Sir John Pakington and Mr. Cobden unite in a scheme for the education of the people, and when such a man as Lord John Russell is prepared to join them, we may be assured that the Session will be rendered memorable by an earnest attempt to settle this great and growing question. The renewal of transportation—as the cheapest, the most merciful, and the most effectual mode of dealing with the superabundant criminals of a closely-packed community—is certain to receive early attention. It is one of the questions that will not keep. It is one in which there are no party and sectarian jealousies to block the way, and we may reasonably expect that it will be dealt with in a manner befitting alike its urgency and its importance.

Two other questions are before the public; and although they may not have much, if any, prominence in the Royal Speech, they will be sufficiently prominent in the public mind before the Session is a fortnight old. Lord John Russell has come, or is coming, home, with a new Reform Bill in his pocket, and, if the Premier do not forestall him by the introduction of a better, will monopolise for a time the attention of Parliament and the country. In either case the question will advance a stage, and, after the lapse of a quarter of a century, the work of 1832 will be carried nearer to completion. The question of the Income and Property Tax—unless the Chancellor of the Exchequer take the sting out of it by as prompt and graceful a renunciation as his official soul can endure—will be debated with more acerbity. All the world is not agreed upon the necessity of popular Education; upon the desirability of Transportation; or upon the political and social expediency of a new Reform in Parliament; but all the world agrees that a Property and Income Tax of sixteenpence in the pound is a very great nuisance; the more especially as more than one half of it goes towards the payment of a war for which the nation has nothing to show, except a treaty of peace, in the durability of which no one has any well-grounded confidence. We may therefore expect that this will be the question of the Session, and wish the Ministers as well as the people a happy deliverance from the fiscal perplexities which it will occasion.

SKETCHES FROM CANTON.

THE FOREIGN FACTORIES.—CANTON PIRATE-BOAT.

In the "Narrative of the American Expedition to the China Seas and Japan" (recently published in New York, and sold in London by Trübner and Co.), Dr. Hawks refers to the passage from Whampoa to Canton in boats as by no means very agreeable. Commodore Perry describes the stream as muddy and shallow, with scarcely a hut upon its banks until the city is nearly reached, when swarms of floating habitations are seen moored to the banks, five or six tiers deep, and occupied by a wretched, half-clad people. Through these two lines of receptacles of poverty and filth which thus border the stream you pass to the mercantile factory, the residence of most of the foreign merchants, and the spot where the stranger lands. Hence he is conducted to the houses of those to whom he bears letters of introduction, where he is hospitably received, and takes up his lodging, as there are no comfortable places of public entertainment in this quarter.

On the visit of the Commodore to Canton, he, together with several of his officers, was accommodated at the house of Mr. Forbes, the Consul of the United States, and the head of the firm of Russell and Co. So well known was this establishment, and so highly appreciated were its proprietors by the Chinese, that, in making a purchase in the city, it was only necessary to direct the shopkeeper to send the article to the house of Mr. Forbes, and there was never any hesitation in assenting at once.

The comparatively small space occupied by the foreigners on the river-side is, notwithstanding its limited extent, a pleasant spot. The whole quarter contains about four acres. The foreign merchants occupy the large buildings in the rear as places of business and abode; while the front, which includes half of the whole area, is beautifully laid out as a garden, with an English church in the centre, and the flags of different nations floating from tall poles planted in various spots. The grounds are arranged with walks, and ornamented with shrubbery and flowering plants, presenting a delightful resort in the freshness of the morning or the cool of the evening. The stranger is struck with the peculiar aspect of the place, when on one side, in proximity to low, dingy, Chinese houses, buildings of European structure rise to the height of three or four stories, while on the other the river is densely populous with the inhabited boats. The foreigners term their residences and places of business factories, but the natives designate them as *hongs*, which is the usual Chinese word for a commercial establishment or warehouse.

Although there are but few of the larger or public buildings in the foreign quarter, which is but a suburb of the city, there are all the ordinary varieties of streets, houses, and bazaars. Foreigners generally confine their visits to that part adjacent to the garden before mentioned, through which Old and New China streets run.

The only hotel in the place, frequented by Europeans and Americans, is near the latter street, and is of quite an inferior character. It is the hospitable practice of the foreign merchants to invite strangers to their princely establishments, where a generous profusion and a warm welcome are extended to the visitor. In addition to Old and New China streets, there is, hard by, a narrow, filthy alley, not inappropriately called Hog-lane, and filled with the most abandoned portion of the people, who minister to the vicious appetites of the foreign sailors, supplying them with wretched grog and other dangerous stimulants.

Upon page 86 we have engraved a View of the Foreign Factories, from a drawing by a Chinese artist; and from the same hand is engraved the specimen of a Canton Pirate-boat upon the preceding page. The American Expedition had some rough experiences with this craft. The Narrative relates:—

The river swarms with pirates, the fishermen occasionally becoming their allies, and they carry on their depredations unchecked in the very teeth of the forts. When the pirates fall of falling in with strangers whom they dare venture to rob, they fall out with each other, and murder and plunder their friends with as little compunction as if they were strangers. In the passage of the *Mississippi* from Macao to Whampoa, the anchorage on the Canton river, one of the two Chinese boats in tow was swamped by bad steering, whereupon the other, in fear of a similar catastrophe, cast off and attempted to proceed up the river. The owner, who happened to be on board the steamer, expressed his fears that she would be overhauled by pirates before her arrival at Whampoa; nor were his fears groundless; she was boarded and robbed a few hours only after she had lost sight of the *Mississippi*. While the steamer was at Hong-Kong several pirates were committed almost under the guns of the vessels of war. As for the land pirates, they are to the full as expert at picking and stealing as the most accomplished thieves and pickpockets of New York or London. One of the Lieutenants of the *Mississippi*, at early twilight one evening, just as he was stepping into a hired boat to return to the ship, was seized amid a crowd of people, and an attempt was made to pull his watch from his fob; fortunately his Pickwickian rotundity of form saved the watch, but the chain was carried off in triumph.

Mr. Sirt, in his "China and the Chinese," thus refers to the pirates in the China Seas:—

The pirate vessels and boats are peculiarly constructed, being remarkably fast. The crews are numerous, and the vessels are fully armed with guns, swivels, matchlocks, spears, boarding-pikes, and other weapons of

an offensive description. Their usual mode of proceeding is as follows:—As soon as they get within reach of their victims, they throw on board the doomed vessel a large quantity of fire-balls, so prepared as to produce an intolerable and most offensive odour when explosion takes place; missiles of all kinds are then scattered around. When the terror and confusion thus created is at its height, the pirates grapple and board the prize, when, if resistance is offered, too frequently all on board are butchered in a savage manner. Pirates infest the seas between Hong-Kong, Macao, and Canton, inhabiting the Ladrone Islands surrounding Hong-Kong, which seem to be abandoned to their sovereignty; and the passage between these forts is thus rendered extremely hazardous, both as regards life and property.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

(From our own Correspondent.)

PARIS, Thursday.

THE lion of the day is decidedly Ferouk Khan, the Persian Ambassador. On Saturday he was presented at the Tuileries, in great state; three of the imperial carriages—two of them with six horses—being sent to the hotel of the Comte Jules de Lesseps, in the Avenue Montaigne, where he is domiciled, to carry him, with the chief personages of his suite, to the palace. The costume of the Ambassador consisted of a magnificent robe of cashmere, ornamented with fur, and fastened with diamond clasps; trousers of white cashmere, with gold band, and the usual high, pointed cap of Astrakan. Ferouk Khan (who speaks but a few words of French) pronounced an address to the Emperor, which was translated by M. Kasimirski; and in Napoleon's reply—similarly rendered—allusion was made to the war between England and Persia, the Emperor expressing his regret that the Sovereign Ferouk Khan represented should be engaged in hostilities with a nation he considered as among his "best friends;" and adding his hope that the presence of the Ambassador in France might tend to facilitate the arrangement of the differences existing between the Government of Great Britain and Persia. Ferouk Khan is the bearer of offerings from the Sultan, consisting of the Order of the Sun for the Emperor; a necklace of splendid pearls for the Empress; and a magnificent sabre, with jewelled hilt, for the Prince Imperial. Beside these he brings the Emperor some Persian horses, extremely tall and extremely ugly.

While we are on the subject of Oriental news we may state that Amic Pacha, son of the late Viceroy of Egypt, and who is stated to possess a fortune of sixty millions of francs, is about to marry the daughter of the Sultan, and has sent emissaries here and elsewhere to choose diamonds to an enormous amount.

It is said that the visit of the Grand Duke Constantine to France is quite decided upon, and that it is probable it will take place before Lent, or perhaps immediately after; the strictness of that period (more especially among the Russians, who fast with peculiar severity) rendering it impossible for France to give the Imperial guest such a reception as it would desire to offer.

The first volumes of the "Correspondance de l'Empereur Napoleon I." are about shortly to appear; and, in order to render the work as complete as possible, the commission charged with its execution has addressed a new appeal to all persons, native or foreign, who may have any documents or information to afford on the subject.

It appears that new projects are being conceived for the further improvement and embellishment of Paris, and that it is probable their execution will not be very long delayed. Among these is a work of great extent and importance in the city, which consists of the demolition of the buildings at present existing on the Quai des Orfèvres and the Rue de la Sainte Chapelle, which will form a public promenade to be continued as far as Notre Dame. The Quai of the Marché Neuf, the Rue du Cloître Notre Dame, &c., will be enlarged, straightened, and otherwise improved; and a new Morgue will be constructed at the eastern extremity of the Isle St. Louis. At the other side of the Palais de Justice, the Boulevard de Sébastopol, and the destruction of the buildings of the Hôtel Dieu (which is said to enter into the arrangements), will produce still greater changes in this quarter—changes in themselves beneficial, but which, in the present state of suffering to which the working population of Paris is reduced—a state unquestionably sorely aggravated by this wholesale system of demolition of the only dwellings their poverty enables them at the present crisis to occupy—cannot fail to add materially to the amount of distress and discontent already existing. To men who have not roofs under which to shelter themselves and their families, it is scant consolation that they have a new promenade on the Quais, where even they may not, in default of other lodging, establish themselves for the night, at the sign of the Belle Etoile, to contemplate at their leisure the flowing of the Seine. Furthermore, for the plan of the establishment of the new Boulevard Malesherbes, which was, for the reasons above named, and urged by the Princess Mathilde, abandoned, at all events for the present, is substituted a project we believe now concluded, for establishing a broad highway from the Park of Monceaux to the Place de l'Etoile, passing through the Faubourg St. Honoré. This will not interfere with the hotel of the Princess Mathilde, as the other would have done.

The weather is gloomy and intensely cold, and a general dulness and depression continues to reign, notwithstanding the advanced season. We suppose some galvanised gaieties will be got up for the Carnival.

THE PARIS CONFERENCES.

The correspondent of *Le Nord* says that no particular ratification of this protocol by the Governments has been deemed necessary. Though it modifies the Treaty of Paris in some essential points, the single signature of the second Plenipotentiaries has been taken as sufficient for the ratifications. The arrangement has been justified on the ground of the transitory nature of all the points of the agreement now effected. When the frontiers of Bessarabia shall have been finally settled, and the evacuation of the Black Sea and of the Danubian Principalities shall have taken place, another special convention is to be entered into by the contracting Powers, which convention will then form an integral part of the Treaty of Paris, and will be specially ratified for the purpose.

The protocol, after indicating where the frontier line will run, says:—

The work of delimitation and of handing over the territory is to be terminated on the 30th of March at latest. It is well understood that the Austrian troops must have evacuated the Principalities, and the British squadron the Straits and the Black Sea, at latest on the same date.

The convention concerning the Straits will from that time enter into full force.

The islands forming the Delta of the Danube, which article 21 of the Treaty of Paris had given to Moldavia, are again to be replaced under the sovereignty of the Porte. As the Treaty of Paris, as well as the treaties formerly concluded between Russia and the Porte are silent concerning the Island of Serpents, it has been agreed that this island is to be considered as forming part of the Delta of the Danube.

In the general interest of commerce, the Porte undertakes to maintain a lighthouse on this island for the safety of the navigation of the Danube as well as for that of the port of Odessa. The river commission, instituted by article 17 of the Treaty of Paris, will watch over the fulfilment of this engagement.

The present protocol is to have the same form as if it were clothed in the form of a convention; but it is understood that, as soon as the frontier commission shall have terminated its labours, the high contracting parties will enter into a convention, confirming the line of the frontier as the commission shall have established it, and also the arrangement concerning the Delta of the Danube and the Island of Serpents.

The document is signed Hubner, Walewski, Cowley, Hatzfeld, Brunnow, Villamarina, Mehmed-Djemil.

THE WAR WITH PERSIA.

(From our Special Correspondent.)

CAMP, NEAR BUSHIRE, Dec 12, 1856.

It would be unnecessary for me to detail the causes of the declaration of war with Persia. Sufficient, that the force, composed as follows, started for Bunder Abbas, viz:—

First Brigade H.M. 64th Regiment, 20th Regiment N.L., commanded by Brigadier Stopford.

Light Brigade: 2nd European Regiment L.L., 2nd Belooch Battalion, 4th Rifle Regiment N.L., commanded by Brigadier Honner.

Artillery: 1st (Eagle) Troop Horse, Captains Gibbard and Hatch's Batteries.

Cavalry: Two squadrons 3rd Light Cavalry, Major Malet commanding; Poona Horse (400 sabres), commanded by Colonel Tapp.

Sappers and Miners: Two companies, Major J. Hill (Engineers) commanding.

In all, 5000 men. General Stalker commanding the force; Colonel Younghusband, Adjutant-General; Captain Wray, Quartermaster-General, &c., &c.

Rear-Admiral Sir Henry Leake, K.C.B., commanded the fleet, composed as follows:—Ajda, Punjaub, Assaye, Berenice, Victoria, Lady Falkland, Semiramis, Sir Jamsetjee Jejeebhoy, H.E.I.C.'s steamers, and Falkland, corvette. The steamers Chusan, Scindian, Bombay, and Victoria, belonging to the Steam Navigation Company, with thirty-two transports, conveying troops, stores, &c., left in three divisions—1st and 2nd divisions from Bombay; 3rd and 4th, Kurrachee; 5th, Vingorla.

The Bombay portion of the fleet, transports, &c., left Bombay on the 11th October, and the whole fleet and force made Bunder Abbas, a port under the rule of the Imaum of Muscat, their rendezvous.

On the 4th October the fleet had arrived at anchor off Bushire, several of the ships touching on their way up the Persian Gulf at Bassadore, Barein, and the Island of Karak; the two former ports belong to the Imaum of Muscat, and the latter place was taken without a shot being fired, if I except the salute of twenty-one guns fired in honour of its capture. It was found to be entirely deserted by the Persians.

On the 6th ult. the fleet went round to Hallilah Bay, a beautiful harbour, though frequented only by fishing-boats, to the eastward of Bushire, distant twelve miles. By daylight of the 7th (Sunday) the gun-boats, six in number, were at their stations, to protect the landing of the troops. The only force of the enemy visible was a small party of 300 cavalry, who retired on the commencement of the firing from the boats, which took place at sunrise; and the first portion of the force—consisting of the 4th Rifles, 2nd European Light Infantry, and her Majesty's 64th Regiment—landed unopposed, with three cheers. Brigadier Honner was the first to land in Persia. The whole force was landed during the day, each man and officer carrying three days' provisions; the troops were all in excellent spirits, though the heat was intense. About four o'clock two companies of the Rifles, under Captain Maude, were dispatched to take and hold the wells, distant about two miles from the encampment. They were opposed by the enemy, who retired on the approach of the column which advanced immediately we heard the firing. We remained that night at the wells. We were turned out three times during the night, but all false alarms.

Monday, 8th.—Remained at the wells. Nothing of consequence occurred.

Tuesday, 9th.—At daylight a body of Persians visible, amounting to about 1000 men, principally cavalry, retiring from Bushire towards the hills, apparently in the direction of Shiraz. We were unable to cut them off, though a battery of artillery was dispatched for that purpose. About eight o'clock the cavalry videttes retired before the advance of a small body of Persians. A troop of cavalry, with horse artillery, a battery of artillery, and the 4th Rifles, advanced; but the enemy had retired before they reached the crest of the hill. About nine o'clock the General decided on advancing on Ras el Bushire; accordingly we advanced right in front, in contiguous columns of regiments, covered by the troop of horse artillery, two batteries of artillery, and the cavalry, with two companies of the Rifles, and two companies of the 2nd European Light Infantry. On our approaching Ras el Bushire, the advanced guard were compelled to retire before the Arabs (*i.e.*, the four companies of skirmishers), and the artillery commenced a heavy fire on the enemy, who retreated into a large redoubt, the rear-face of which rested on the sea. About twelve we stormed the fort, which was defended, previously to the firing of the artillery, by 1500 men—Arab-Persians, of the Tungistani tribe; but from the loss sustained by them, nearly 400, at least a thousand men must have made their escape before we crowned the ramparts of the fort. Brigadier Stopford was killed while gallantly leading on his brigade to the storm. Poor Utterson, of the 20th Regiment Native Infantry, was killed on the top of the ramparts: he was shot through the lungs, and died soon after. Poor fellow, he was a brave and gallant soldier, and is much regretted by his regiment. Lieut. Warren, 20th Regiment Native Infantry, was mortally wounded, and died on board the hospital-ship, the *Result* transport, the following day.

The 2nd European Light Infantry stormed the breach on the front face of the redoubt; the fire from the Arabs was very heavy, and well sustained to the last—the Arabs fighting furiously. The few who escaped by the sea face of the redoubt were cut to pieces by the cavalry, and they managed to kill poor Malet, the commanding officer of the 3rd Cavalry, and 15 troopers, before they could be exterminated. The following list comprises the killed and wounded:—

H.M. 64th Regt.—1 officer (Colonel Stopford), 2 men, killed; 11 men wounded.

2nd European Light Infantry—6 men killed; 7 men wounded.

Horse Artillery—3 men wounded.

Captain Gibbard's Battery Artillery—3 men wounded.

Captain Hatch's Battery—1 man wounded.

20th Regt. Native Infantry—2 officers (Lieuts. Warren and Utterson) killed; 2 officers wounded (one severely, Capt. Hood); 10 men killed; 7 men wounded.

2nd Belooch Battalion—2 men killed (one by their own men).

3rd Light Cavalry—1 officer killed (Major Malet); 15 men killed; 10 men wounded.

Poona Horse—Colonel Tapp wounded.

4th Rifles—5 men wounded.

The steamers kept up a heavy fire from the sea on the enemy; but from the appearance of the interior of the fort, after the storm, it appears to have had but little effect.

Wednesday, 9th.—At sunrise advanced on Bushire; arriving before the town at about one p.m. The cavalry engaged during the march with small parties of the enemy; cutting off about fifty men, part of whom were made prisoners. I forgot to mention that the fleet moved round to Bushire during the night and commenced a tremendous cannonade on the town, which was returned by the enemy from a heavy battery on the sea. Our range, however, was so much greater than theirs that their fire had little effect on the ships, as they were soon moved out of range of the enemy's guns. The rigging of the *Semiramis* was cut to pieces, however, hardly a rope being left standing. She only received two shots in her hull. The *Victoria* also was injured, but I believe not a single man was killed, a few only wounded. On our drawing up in line to commence action a flag of truce was sent up to the masthead of the *Assaye*, the flagship, and, accordingly, firing ceased.

The enemy did not attempt to fire on us, and, on the arrival of the Assistant Political Agent from the flagship, a flag of truce was sent

towards the gates of the town; and, ultimately, the Governor of Bushire and his staff advanced to meet the attaché, Major Taylor (from Teheran, who joined the force two days previously from Bagdad), Captain Rigby, &c., &c., by whom he was conducted to the General, and the unconditional surrender of the town was formally demanded. The Governor was also informed that half an hour would be allowed for consideration, at the expiration of which, should the place not surrender, the fire would recommence. The Governor (Derza Beg) accordingly returned, and the whole force advanced to within 500 yards of the wall, the horse artillery advancing on the gates. However, within the half hour, the Governor returned and gave himself up as prisoner of war, surrendering the town; and the British flag, within an hour, was flying over the walls of Bushire. The line now advanced, the infantry regiments and artillery laid down their arms, and were then permitted to escape. Fifty-six guns, principally long field-pieces, were taken, besides the muskets, &c. Strange to say, all the arms, even the large guns, bore the Company's mark! About 2000 cavalry had made their escape previous to our advance, carrying off their horses, &c. I have omitted to add that strong Martello Tower, defended by two guns, and surrounded by earthworks, was taken unopposed, the garrison having been shelled out from the ships; the tower is now occupied by the General and staff, and the Governor of Bushire, as a prisoner of war. The town appears to have suffered much from the fire of the ships; and the loss sustained by the enemy amounts to nearly 500 men. Bushire contains 10,000 inhabitants, besides the army, artillery, &c., which amounted, a few days previously to our arrival, to between 4000 and 5000 men. The 64th and 20th Regiments now occupy Bushire, the remainder of the force being encamped outside; and we hope in a day or two to receive our tents, &c., for the cold at night is very intense, and we have now been six days without them, exposed to sun and cold and heavy dews, and on salt provisions—men and officers. We now remain here pending the answer of the Shah. I fancy he will be rather surprised to hear of the surrender of the town of Bushire.

This is written in the sun, with my knee for a writing-desk. The despatches leave to-day, and I have only just time to send this hastily-written account.

It is reported that the Shah has decided to make peace upon the terms proposed. The *Morning Post* says:—

We believe we may state that official information has reached our Government of the probability of the Court of Teheran agreeing to our demands. The Turkish Minister at that capital has sent a despatch to his Government, informing them that, having heard of the fall of Bushire, the Persian Government "decided" to make peace upon the English terms. On its reaching Constantinople this intelligence was immediately forwarded by telegraph by Lord Stratford, and its authenticity may be relied on.

We may therefore hope for a speedy settlement of the Persian difficulty. At the same time we need hardly point out, after our recent experience in the theory and practice of peace-making, that there is sufficient difference between a determination to make peace and the actual accomplishment of it to warrant us in not being over sanguine. The Court of Persia heard of our expedition, and immediately afterwards of its success. On finding the force to be less than was anticipated, and that it is not yet advancing into the country, the Persian mind may change. We do not anticipate this—we only point it out. We ourselves think that the capture of Bushire will probably be the beginning and the end of the Persian war.

THE WAR IN CHINA.

The advices from Hong-Kong by the last Overland Mail come down to the 16th of December.

An extra to the *Hong-Kong Register*, of Dec. 16, details the destruction of the factories at Canton:—

On Sunday night, the 14th instant, at eleven o'clock, the factories to the west of the British Factory were set on fire in six places.

During the conflagration the Dutch Folly Fort was throwing shells and rockets into the city. No attack was made—the Chinese contenting themselves with burning the empty houses, by which their own people will be the greatest sufferers. The Oriental Bank was in full blaze, the Agra and Mercantile Banks burned down, the Consulate still standing, but expected to go, with all the remaining buildings in the factories. The fire commenced behind the premises of Messrs. Dent and Co., and all the houses fronting the American Gardens, except those of Russell and Co. and Wetmore and Co., burned; the two last named were saved for the time.

We are sorry to learn that the fire has been accompanied with loss of life, Mr. O. T. Lane, of the Consulate, having been killed by the blowing up of the parsonage, and Dr. Winchester, Vice-Consul, slightly bruised.

The *China Mail* says:—

We hear this day of one terrible consequence of the present condition of Canton. Yeh, it seems, has been concentrating there all the troops ordinarily distributed through the surrounding country; and some of the districts from which the garrisons have been withdrawn have been consequently overrun by thousands of Hak-ka men. Within the last three weeks the magisterial districts of Sin-hwei, Sin-ning, K'ai-ping, and Hoh-shan, have suffered fearfully. Some fifty towns and villages are said to have been sacked and burnt; the inhabitants massacred without distinction of age or sex; and it is computed that some 50,000 people have been turned out of house and home.

The *Strait Times* and *Singapore Journal*, of Dec. 23, states that its latest advices from Canton mention that "the British were pouring shot and shell into the city—which place, it was expected, would be completely destroyed in a few days."

ORGANISATION OF THE PRINCIPALITIES.

The firman convoking the Divan *ad hoc*, which is to represent the wishes of the population of Wallachia upon the definitive political organisation of that Principality, has been published. It prescribes that all boyards and sons of boyards, thirty years of age, possessing 100 falshes of land, shall assemble and elect in each district two deputies to the Divan, who must be owners of 300 falshes of land. The other proprietors, possessing not less than ten falshes of land, shall choose in each district five electors, who are to elect one deputy to the Divan. The peasants of each commune are to choose two delegates, who will meet together in each district and appoint electors, by whom a deputy to the Divan will be elected; and these district deputies of the peasants will be paid a compensation for their journey and their stay at Bucharest. Four city members will be elected by the capital, and two, or one, by the other towns. The candidates must be thirty years old, natives or legally naturalised, and not subject to any foreign protection. Town deputies must either possess houses of a certain value, or be members of a liberal profession, merchants having a patent of the third class, members of academies or literary and scientific institutions recognised by the State, or delegates of the different corporations.

THE BLACK SEA.

A despatch from Constantinople, dated Jan. 19, says the British steamers have quitted the Euxine, the Russians having evacuated Serpents' Island. The Lebanon disturbances have been calmed. The Circassians were forming three armies in Abasia, Lesghistan, and Kabarda. The Russians were concentrating on the River Kour.

AMERICA.

By the *Niagara*, which arrived at Liverpool on Monday last, we have American news to the 14th inst. The alteration of the tariff seems to be the leading topic of discussion. In the House of Representatives a bill for reducing the duty on imports had been taken up in committee. Mr. Humphrey Marshall, in introducing the bill, gave notice in general terms that the committee contemplated bringing down the high schedules, and either abolishing or raising the low ones. Mr. Florence had given notice of an amendment—viz., That all goods or articles of manufacture unfinished, and known as goods in the grease, of which the tissues are combed wool, and of which the chain and filling are wool, such as merinoes, mousselines de laine, cashmeres, and satins; and those the tissues of which and the chain is of silk, and the filling of wool, such as baréges and satin, be admitted on paying a duty of ten per cent *ad valorem*. Mr. Morrill offered an amendment, that any wool or hair of the alpaca, goat, &c., changed in character for the purpose of evading the duty, should, if reduced fifteen cents per lb., or less, be subjected to a duty of thirty per cent.

Advices from Kansas report that the Free State Legislature met at

Topeka on the 6th inst., and adjourned until next day. Governor Robinson had resigned. Lieut.-Governor Roberts was in the territory, but failed to attend, and much dissatisfaction prevailed in consequence. A United States' Deputy Marshal had arrested seven members of the Free State Legislature on a writ issued by Judge Cato; over thirty names were attached to the writ. The prisoners were taken to Tecumseh for trial.

Advices from San Juan del Norte to the 22nd December report that no tidings had been received of Walker for some days previously. Scott had quarrelled with him and stopped running his boats, and Walker had seized for his own use all the steamers on the lake and rivers.

The church of Guadalupe was still held by the Americans, who refused to surrender, though destitute and subsisting on horseflesh. They were to be attacked immediately; after which the bulk of the allied army would proceed to operate with General Canas against San Juan and Virgin Bay. The loss of the Filibusters since Nov. 24 was stated at 300; that of the allies small. Private letters state that the Indians at Ometero had risen against Walker, and killed fifteen Filibusters. Walker, with 150 men, had attempted to retake Granada, but was repulsed. Canas, the commander of the Costa Rican forces against Walker, was near or in Rivas on the 12th, with 600 men. Walker had 400 men at St. George, a mile or two from Rivas; and Canas wrote that he should attack the Americans the next day, unless Walker took the initiative. The whole force against the Filibusters now in the field, according to Costa Rica papers, is about 2000 men; 500 more from Salvador and from Costa Rica would enter Nicaragua immediately. Walker's whole force was not reckoned to exceed 800.

THE PERSIAN AMBASSADOR'S RECEPTION.—The Persian Ambassador was received by the French Emperor on Saturday last, at a public audience, when he presented his credentials. To the speech of the Ambassador the Emperor made the following reply:—"Monsieur l'Ambassadeur,—I am happy that your Sovereign has charged you to bring me his congratulations. When the war broke out in the East I thought to renew our former relations with Persia, and her neutrality was not useless to us. I now congratulate myself on the treaty of commerce concluded between our two countries; as commercial relations, firmly established, always cement the friendship of nations. It is with regret that I heard of the war which has broken out between you and one of my most intimate allies; but I make most ardent wishes that your mission to this portion of the globe may hasten the return of a lasting peace. I thank you for the flattering things you have said to me for France, and for the Prince Imperial; and I beg of you to believe in my full sentiments of benevolence towards you. The Ambassador handed to the Emperor the Royal Order of Persia, and presents for the Empress and Prince Imperial."

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

THE MEETING OF PARLIAMENT.—The Queen has intimated her intention not to open Parliament in person. The Speech from the Throne upon the reassembling of Parliament will, therefore, be delivered by Lords Commissioners on Tuesday, February 3. The Address, in answer to the Speech from the Throne, will be moved in the Lords by the Earl of Cork, and we believe, will be seconded by Earl Cowper. Both these young noblemen have but lately succeeded, at an early age, to their family honours. The Address of the Commons will be moved by Sir John Ramsden, Bart., member for the borough of Taunton, and seconded by Sir Andrew Agnew, Bart., member for Wiganthire.

PARLIAMENTARY DINNER PARTIES.—The Ministerial dinner parties on the opening of the Session will be given by Viscount Palmerston and Earl Granville to the supporters of Government in either House. The former noble Lord will entertain his colleagues and those members of the Lower House who hold places in the Queen's household, together with the mover and seconder of the Address, and a large number of members holding office in different departments of the Government. Lord Granville will receive his colleagues in the Upper House, noblemen holding office in her Majesty's household, the mover and seconder of the Address, and also a large party of Peers, supporters of the present Administration. Both banquets will be State dinners.

THE INCOME-TAX.—DEPUTATION TO THE CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER.—On Tuesday afternoon a deputation waited upon the Chancellor of the Exchequer, at his official residence in Downing-street, for the purpose of pressing upon his attention the necessity of a removal of the Income-tax upon incomes of £150 and under. The deputation consisted of Dr. Challice, of Bermondsey, Mr. Stratton, Mr. Underwood, and other gentlemen, who are members of the association under whose auspices a meeting was held last week at the London Tavern. The deputation was introduced by Mr. Stratton, who pointed out to the Chancellor of the Exchequer the great inconveniences felt by persons with limited incomes from the pressure of the tax. Their object was to ask the Chancellor to consider whether it would not be possible to relieve persons entirely who had incomes under £150 a year, and in all cases to abandon the tax upon the first £150 of income. The speakers, after discussing with the Chancellor the subject of poor-rates and various other matters, thanked him for receiving the deputation, and left without receiving any reply on the specific question on which they had visited him for consultation.

THE NEW BISHOP OF LONDON.—On Saturday Dr. Archibald Campbell Tait, the new Bishop of London, appeared in the Court of Queen's Bench, before Lord Campbell, Mr. Justice Coleridge, Mr. Justice Wightman, and Mr. Justice Crompton, when the oaths of supremacy, allegiance, and abjuration were administered to the right rev. Prelate by the Queen's Remembrancer. His Lordship, having subscribed the oaths, took his leave of the Judges and the Court.

MERCANTILE LAW CONFERENCE.—A conference on the subject of the Mercantile Law was held on Wednesday last at Willis's Rooms, under the presidency of Lord Brougham. Amongst the gentlemen present were Lord Stanley, M.P., Sir Erskine Perry, M.P., Mr. Apsley Pellatt, M.P., Mr. George Ridley, M.P., Mr. Wickham, M.P., Mr. Craufurd, M.P., Mr. C. Russell, Liverpool; Mr. E. Banner, Liverpool Law Society; Mr. J. Wilson, Vice-President of the Liverpool Guardian Society for the Protection of Trade; Messrs. Hassell, Phillips, and Wells, Hull Chamber of Commerce; Mr. L. Briton, Secretary to the Bristol Chamber of Commerce; Messrs. Crosthwaite, F. Codd, John Jameson, and Thomas Pim, Dublin Chamber of Commerce; Mr. Henry Brown, Mayor of Bradford; Mr. John Darlington, Secretary to the Bradford Chamber of Commerce; Messrs. Kitchley and Saunders, Kidderminster; Mr. S. Ayrton, Leeds; Messrs. Turner, Entwistle, Taylor, and Fleming, Commercial Association, Manchester; Mr. Lea, Warrington Chamber of Commerce; Mr. Richard Graves, Mayor of Warwick; Mr. S. S. Lloyd, Birmingham Chamber of Commerce; Mr. J. Mitchell, Leith; Mr. T. T. Paget, President of the Leicester Trade Protection Society; and Mr. Thomas McClure, Belfast Chamber of Commerce. There was also a large attendance of the members of the legal profession. The Chairman addressed the meeting at some length on the subject of Mercantile Law. A report was then read detailing the proceedings of the society, the changes which had been made, and the alterations proposed in the Mercantile Law since the last conference; after which papers were read by the Leeds Chamber of Commerce, and Mr. Commissioner Ayrton, on the administration of the Bankruptcy Law; and also a paper by Mr. Craufurd, on the Judgments Execution Bill.

MEETING OF TICKET-OF-LEAVE MEN.—A meeting of ticket-of-leave men took place on Tuesday evening at Farringdon Hall, Snow-hill. The arrangements for this singular gathering were made by Mr. Henry Mayhew, at the request of the Earl of Carnarvon, who was announced to preside, and who was anxious that on the eve of the reassembling of Parliament, where this subject is likely to be fully canvassed, our legislators should have the benefit of whatever light such a meeting might afford, before approaching so important a discussion. The muster on the occasion comprised from seventy to eighty of the class especially invited, who were admitted on presenting their respective tickets of leave at the door; and in order to allay any distrust which might prevent them from responding to the summons the police were rigorously excluded, as well from the entrance and immediate vicinity of the hall, as from the interior. The proceedings were advertised to commence at half-past seven o'clock, but a delay of three-quarters of an hour occurred, during which a few stragglers dropped in, swelling the entire assemblage to perhaps between eighty or ninety. Lord Carnarvon took the chair, and on or near the platform were Mr. H. Mayhew, the Rev. Mr. Portal, Mr. Beach, Mr. Wyld, Dr. Mackay, and some dozen or fifteen other gentlemen interested in the reformation of our criminal population. Several ticket-of-leave men addressed the meeting. Most of them spoke in strong terms of the difficulty they had to obtain honest employment. One man said he was willing to work for 3s. a day to-morrow if anybody would engage him, and that sum was as little as he could well live upon. The way in which his kind friends had "lent him a hand" was to set the police to hunt him down without cause. His married sister had her house lately broken into, and when the police went to inquire about it his niece told them, "Oh, I have an uncle who is a housebreaker." At the close of the meeting the Chairman asked for a show of hands to ascertain whether the men would prefer to have a ticket of leave in England or a ticket of leave in the colonies, when they all signified their choice in the latter alternative.

REBUILDING OF THE ROYAL PAVILION THEATRE.—On Monday morning permission was granted by the lord of the manor for the district of St. Mary, Whitechapel, to the ground landlord for the rebuilding of the Pavilion Theatre, Whitechapel-road, which was destroyed by fire about two years since.

OFFICIAL APPOINTMENTS.—The Lord Chancellor has appointed Mr. C. D. Bevan, of the Middle Temple, to be Judge of the County Court of Cornwall, in the room of Mr. G. G. Kekewich, deceased. The Rev. Sydney Turner, of the Philanthropic School at Red-hill, has been appointed Inspector of Prisons for service connected with the reformatories for juvenile offenders.

MONUMENT TO MEDICAL OFFICERS OF THE ARMY WHO LOST THEIR LIVES DURING THE LATE WAR.—A special meeting of the committee appointed to carry out the above design assembled at the Army Medical Board, Whitehall-yard, on Saturday, the 17th inst., when the sum of £523 1s. was announced to have been received, which, with a few exceptions, had been subscribed by the army medical officers themselves, the sum of £327 having been remitted by the survivors while serving in the Crimea, and the residue of £196 has been since contributed in England. A supplemental list will hereafter be printed containing the names of contributors and the amount subscribed, in addition to the list which has already been circulated. Subscriptions continue to be received by Messrs. McGregor, Army Agents, and by Mr. John Wimbridge, at the Army Medical Board.

CASE OF ARCHDEACON DENISON.—In the Court of Queen's Bench, on Wednesday last, the rule calling upon Sir John Dobson, the Dean of the Arches Court, to show cause why a mandamus should not issue commanding him to proceed to hear and determine the appeal of Archdeacon Denison from the decision of the Archbishop of Canterbury and his assessors, was made absolute.

BIRTHS AND DEATHS IN THE METROPOLIS.—The deaths registered in London, which in the two previous weeks had been 1135 and 1171, rose in the week that ended last Saturday to 1216. Although the rate of mortality has been rising lately, it is still below the average. Last week the births of 904 boys and 885 girls, in all 1789 children, were registered in London. In the ten corresponding weeks of the years 1847-56 the average number was 1553.

THE PROSPECTS OF THE BRITISH BANK CREDITORS.—At the last meeting of the creditors, before Mr. Commissioner Holroyd, Mr. Linklater, the solicitor, in answer to Mr. Holroyd's question, stated the prospects of the creditors as follows:—"The official assignee at present has in hand about, I should say, £50,000. The 5s. 6d. paid to the creditors upon that £160,000 would amount to about £42,000 or £43,000; it would leave, therefore, in hand about £7000. The official manager having now consented to act in entire concurrence with the assignees, and to aid them all in his power in the realisation of the property, undoubtedly it would tend to the advantage of the estate, and probably produce a considerable sum more than if that concurrence were not obtained. In dealing with title to property, of course purchasers will be very glad to hear that the official manager and the assignees are concurring in giving a title to purchasers. The official manager is to hand over the sum of £11,000 in a day or two out of the £20,000 which has been obtained, and very shortly, as soon as the calls have been obtained by him, another sum of £5000 will be handed over; so that we shall get upwards of £16,000 from the official manager, within a week or ten days, or perhaps rather more than that; and as soon as that is done, with the realisation of the property of Mr. Humphrey Brown, and other securities which the assignees have at their disposal, we hope by the end of the month of February to make another dividend. I am in very great hopes by that time that the exertions which are now being made for a general arrangement will be successful, and that there may be a close to all matters connected with the Royal British Bank."

THE UNEMPLOYED WORKMEN AND THE POOR-LAW GUARDIANS.—On Monday last some 200 persons marched in a body from Lambeth Workhouse to Lambeth Police Court, and forwarded a document to Mr. Elliott, the sitting magistrate, in which they stated that they had applied to the parish for casual relief and been refused. They now appealed to him for advice as to what course they ought to take. Mr. Elliott desired that one or two of the men might be selected by the crowd as their advocates or spokesmen, and in a few minutes a deputation of three made their appearance in the court. One of them, Charles Fletcher, journeyman painter, entered the witness-box, and, addressing the magistrate, said that, agreeably to the instructions of the secretary of the committee of the unemployed working men who had met in Smithfield some days ago, he took a number of persons who were, as well as himself, settled in that parish, for relief; but it was refused them, unless they worked three hours for half a pound of bread. This they refused, though some of them had been without food from the day before, for this reason—that, if compelled to do three hours' work in the workhouse for the small amount of relief afforded them, they should be spending the time that it would be necessary to look out for work elsewhere, and this would be exceedingly detrimental to their getting work. In reply to Mr. Elliott, Fletcher said that the regular relief had been afforded to the applicants at Clerkenwell and other parishes. Mr. Elliott here directed Coster, one of the warrant officers, to accompany the applicants and the party to Lambeth Workhouse, and to request the relieving officer to take down the names of the applicants and give them such temporary relief as the necessities of themselves and their families required until they could attend the board, and have their respective cases inquired into and properly attended to. Coster at once obeyed the magistrate's directions, and on his return informed Mr. Elliott that on reaching the workhouse he found that the Board of Guardians were then sitting, and he at once proceeded to the board-room and informed the chairman and the members of the board of the message he had been sent with by his worship. The board at once consented to hear the application or complaint of a deputation of the workmen, as they represented themselves, and he (Coster) took a message to the parties to that effect, but they one and all declined. Mr. Jarret, one of the relieving officers, also offered the parties, in his presence, tickets for labour in the workhouse, and for which labour they would have been paid according to their necessities and the number of their families, but they refused to accept them, and marched off in a body. Mr. Elliott said that he was not surprised or disappointed at the result, believing, as he did, that the object of the parties was more display than actual want, or a desire to seek parochial assistance.

THE DOUBLE MURDER IN WALWORTH.—On Monday last Mrs. Bacon made a fuller confession of the guilt of her husband, but it does not differ widely from that which she made on the previous Wednesday at Lambeth Police Court. She now says that it was after destroying the life of the younger child that her husband attacked her, and not only attempted to cut her throat, but inflicted several scars on it. She repeats that she got hold of him by the wrist of the right hand (in which he held the knife) with her hands, and prevented him reaching her throat. She further states that, as soon as her husband could release himself from her hold, he drew a rope from his pocket, and drew it round her neck, endeavouring to prevent her making a noise, and, forcing her on her bed, rushed out of the room. In confirmation of her assertion on this point it is said that, when taken to Horsemanor-lane gaol on the Tuesday evening (the following day), the matron of that prison distinctly noticed a livid mark round the neck, such as would be produced by a rope or some hard ligature tied tightly round it; and it struck her to be of so singular a character as to induce her to call the attention of the prison surgeon to it. On Wednesday last Bacon underwent an examination, and was remanded till next week.

THE DESERT ROUTE.

(Continued from page 58.)

III. CAMEL-DRIVERS' ENCAMPMENT. IV. TRAVELLERS' ENCAMPMENT.

THE long day's journey has at length come to an end. As the sun nears the west, the hot uncomfortable wind gradually assumes a milder form. Innumerable sand hillocks throw out long and welcome shades, and the chief of the caravan looks earnestly around him for some one spot more suitable than the rest of the vast wilderness for the night's bivouac. At length, in a species of valley, whose confines are formed by numberless sand-hills, we come across a group of stumpy palm-trees, more than half buried in accumulating sand. One tree, more stunted than the rest, has been overtaken by the gathering deluge of dust, and nought but a few of its branches remain above ground. There are a few straggling bushes here and there, and there is a something so cheering in the proximity of vegetation that it is resolved on by all parties to halt here for the night. The camels are unladen, and most of them, weary with the day's work, lie about in uncouth and grotesque attitudes. Some few, delighted to be eased of their burden, go stalking about the neighbourhood in the vain search for green leaves or prickly-pear bushes. The camel-drivers fasten the sack containing the camel's evening meal round the animal's head, and then betake themselves to the enjoyment of a pipe or a narghly. In the picture before us two old worthies, to whom the spot has been familiar from infancy, are inhaling with gusto the fragrant smoke of their respective pipes, waiting patiently the arrival of their brethren, who are possibly occupied in helping to set up the travellers' tents, before partaking of their frugal evening meal, and stretching out on their sheepskins for the night. Nearer still is one of their number, who, completely overcome by the heat and fatigue of the day, has sunk into a deep sleep, with nothing but a hard stone (like Jacob of old) for his pillow. The two nearest figures in the group are evidently native travellers—one of whom, pipe and tobacco-bag in hand, is meditating on what next to do, sleep or smoke; while his wearied companion has sunk into a deep repose, his head supported against a pile of travelling-bags containing his own and his comrade's personal property.

The night is far advanced, and the weary travellers and their servants are wrapt in deep sleep. Intense solitude reigns around. The white light of the sickly moon shines upon the travellers' encampment, which consists of about half-a-dozen chadirs, or tents. One tent is set aside as a sleeping apartment for the lady and gentleman; another answers the same purposes for the servants; another for the drago-

S C E N E S I N T H E D E S E R T.



CAMEL-DRIVERS' ENCAMPMENT IN THE DESERT.

man, or interpreter (a very consequential personage in a traveller's train of followers); another to cook in; and one (generally the largest tent) is fitted up as a dining and sitting room. Here many of the camel-drivers congregate when all the rest have retired to rest, partly to guard over the luggage in case some stray Arab Bedouins should be on their track, partly for the sake of shelter from the heavy night dews. These sing and tell tales during the early part of the night; and one of their number alternately, gun in hand, keeps watch outside the tent doors. Their long spears, towering high in the air, have been negligently stuck into the ground, and so have

many of their poles bearing flags. Hanging from the tent are the leather water-bags—the most indispensable treasures of the desert wanderer. A few wickerwork cages containing fowls and partridges are left near the tent doors; and against one of these, the barrel of his long gun resting on his shoulder, is leaning the wary watchman, squatted in a fashion wholly incomprehensible to an Englishman. Hanging from a little stick with a crook at the end of it is the paper "funnarl," or lantern, which folds into a convenient size when not in active service, and in which a small wax candle faintly glimmers. Near the funnarl are two of the baggage-camels: one en-

deavouring to disentangle his mouth from the long-since empty sack; the other indolently rubbing its head against the bony shoulders of its companion. In the distance are two or three camels that have strayed from the encampment, chewing the cud of discontent in the utter absence of all vegetable matter. The morning approaches, of which two or three unhappy cocks cooped up in the baskets before alluded to give ample warning. The tents are struck, the camels laden, and the party resumes its march. And this, with very little variation to the monotony of the thing, is the every-day routine in the desert.

(To be continued.)



TRAVELLERS' ENCAMPMENT IN THE DESERT.

TREE-CLIMBING CRABS.

FEW who look at the vast quantities of crabs, lobsters, sea crayfish, shrimps, and prawns, which are so temptingly and abundantly displayed in the shops of our fishmongers, consider them in any other light than as delicacies for the table. At present we desire only to touch upon certain strange species, the existence of which even is not generally known, and thus throw an interest around the whole tribe. First let us take a cursory glance at the Crustaceans, as the naturalist terms them—that is, crabs, lobsters, and similar species.

Crabs and lobsters are strange creatures: strange in their configuration; strange in the transmutations which they exhibit from the egg to maturity; strange in the process they undergo of casting off, not only their shell, but the covering of their eyes, of their long horns, and even the lining of their tooth-furnished stomach; strange, also, are they in their habits and manners. We presume that our reader has often wandered along the sea-shore, and floundered amidst banks of slimy sea-weed. If so, he cannot but have disturbed colonies of little crabs quietly nestling in fancied security; nor can he have scrutinised the nooks and recesses of the coast, the shallows, and the strips of sand left dry at ebb tide, without observing numbers of little, or perchance large, crabs, some concealed in snug lurking-places, others, tripping with a quick sidelong movement over the beach, alarmed by the advance of an unwelcome intruder. Some of these Crustaceans are exclusively tenants of the water, have feet formed like paddles, for swimming, and never venture on land; others seem to love the air and sunshine, and enjoy an excursion, not without hopes of finding an acceptable repast, over the oozy sands; some, equally fond of the shore and the shallow water, appropriate to themselves the shells of periwinkles, whelks, &c., and there live in a sort of castle, which they drag about with them on their excursions, changing it for a larger, not without serious scrutiny, as they increase in measure of growth.

The Crustaceans afford interesting objects for the consideration of those who delight in the study of natural history; especially those of the warmer latitudes of the globe. They vary in size, from microscopic animalcules to the gigantic King Crab: to the former, the luminosity of the ocean, or of the foam before the prows of vessels, is to a great extent attributable, each minute creature glowing with phosphoric radiance.

Certain crabs, especially in the West Indies, are almost exclusively terrestrial, visiting the sea only at given periods, for the deposition of their eggs. These crabs, carrying in their gill-chambers sufficient water for the purpose of respiration, live in burrows, and traverse considerable tracts of land in the performance of migratory journeys. Of these some, as the Violet Crab, are esteemed exquisite delicacies.

Of one of the Burrowing Crabs Cuvier thus writes:—"The animal closes the entrance of its burrow, which is situated near the margin of the sea, or in marshy grounds, with its largest claw. These burrows are cylindrical, oblique, very deep, and very close to each other; but generally each burrow is the exclusive habitation of a single individual. The habit which these crabs have of holding their large claw elevated in advance of the body, as if making a sign of beckoning to some one, has obtained for them the name of Calling Crabs. There is a species observed by Mr. Bosc in South Carolina, which passes the three months of the winter in its retreat without once quitting it, and which never goes to the sea except at the epoch of egg-laying." The same observations apply to the Chevalier Crabs (so called from the celerity with which they traverse the ground). These are found in Africa, and along the borders of the Mediterranean.

Some crabs, truly aquatic, as the Vaulted Crab of the Moluccas, have the power of drawing back their limbs and concealing them in a furrow, which they closely fit; and thus, in imitation of a tortoise, which retracts its feet and head within its shell, they secure themselves, when alarmed, from the attack of enemies. Other aquatic species have the limbs adapted for clinging to weeds and other marine objects. Of these, some have the two or four hinder pair of limbs so placed as to appear to spring from the back; they terminate in a sharp hook, by means of which the animal attaches itself to the valves of shells, fragments of coral, &c., which it draws over its body, and thus lurks in concealment. Allied in some respects to the Hermit or Soldier Crabs, which tenant empty shells, and to which we have briefly alluded, is one which from its habits and manners is certainly to be placed amongst the most extraordinary of its race. The Hermit Crabs are voracious, and feed on animal substances, and this is the character of the Crustaceans in general. On the contrary, the Crab, or rather Lobster Crab—for it takes an intermediate place between them—is more delicate in its appetite, and feeds upon fruits, to obtain which it climbs up certain trees, at the feet of which it makes a burrow. The species in question is the Purse Crab or Robber Crab (*Birgus latro*) of Amboyna, and other islands in the South Pacific Ocean. It is probable that there are more than one species, but voyagers have not attended to nice discrimination.

The first naturalist who placed upon record the habits of the Purse Crab was Herbst; and to his account Rumphius, Seba, Linnæus, and Cuvier refer. The latter observes that, "according to a popular belief among the Indians, the animal feeds on the nuts of the cocoa-tree, and that it makes its excursions during the night." He gives fissures in the rocks, or holes in the ground, as its places of retreat.

That the accounts of the early writers and travellers should have been received with incredulity is not surprising, nor that the statements of the natives should have been deemed almost unworthy of serious consideration. The truth of these details has been, however, within the last few years abundantly confirmed in all their essentials. M.M. Quoy and Gaimard assure us that several individuals of this species were fed by them for many months on cocoa-nuts alone—a circumstance commented upon by Professor Owen, when a specimen of this crab was laid before one of the scientific meetings of the Zoological Society, with additional information from Mr. Cuming, in whose fine collection of Crustacea, shells, &c., from the islands of the South Pacific, several specimens were preserved. According to this enterprising voyager and naturalist, these crabs are to be found in great abundance at Lord Hood's Island, in the Pacific. He there frequently met with them on the road; and states that, on being disturbed, they instantly assumed a defensive attitude, making a violent snapping with their powerful claws, or pincers, and continued this snapping as they retreated backwards. They climb a species of palm (*Pandanus odoratissimus*), and eat a small kind of cocoa-nut that grows thereon. They live at the roots of the trees, and not in the holes of rocks; and they are a favourite food among the natives. Such is the substance of Mr. Cuming's account; to which we shall now add a most interesting passage from Mr. Darwin's ("Researches in Geology and Natural History"), relative to the habits of these crabs, as observed by him in the Keeling Islands, or Cocos Islands, situated in the Indian Ocean, about 600 miles distant from the coast of Sumatra. In these islands, of coral formation, the cocoa-nut tree so prevails as to appear, at a first glance, to compose the whole wood, but five or six other kinds are also to be seen, and one of large size. Here the Great Purse Crab is abundant. Mr. Darwin writes as follows:—

I have before alluded to a crab which lives on the cocoa-nuts; it is very common on all parts of the dry land, and grows to a monstrous size. It is closely allied to, or is identical with, the *Birgus latro*. This crab has its front pair of legs terminated by very strong and heavy pincers, and the last pair by others which are narrow and weak. It would at first be thought quite impossible for a crab to open a strong cocoa-nut, covered with the husk; but Mr. Lesk assures me that he has repeatedly seen the operation effected. The crab begins by tearing away the husk, fibre by fibre, and always from that end under which the three eye-holes are situated. When this is completed the crab commences hammering with its heavy claws on one of these eye-holes till an opening is made. Then, turning its body, by the aid of its posterior and narrow pair of pincers it extracts the white albuminous substance. I think this as curious a case as I ever heard of, and likewise of adaptation in structure between two objects apparently so remote from each other in the scheme of nature as a crab and a cocoa-nut tree. The *Birgus* is diurnal in its habits; but it is said to pay every night a visit to the sea for the purpose of moistening its gills.

These gills, we may here observe, are very peculiar, and scarcely fill up more than a tenth of the chamber in which they are situated, and which, doubtless, acts as a reservoir for water, to serve during the animals' excursions over the dry and heated land. The young are hatched and live for some time on the coast. At this period of existence we cannot suppose that cocoa-nuts form any part of their diet; most probably soft saccharine grasses, tender fruits, and animal matters constitute their food, until they attain to a certain degree of size and strength.

Mr. Darwin continues:—

The adult crabs inhabit deep burrows, which they excavate beneath the roots of trees; and here they accumulate surprising quantities of the picked fibres of the cocoa-nut husk, on which they rest as on a bed. The Malays sometimes take advantage of their labours by collecting the coarse fibrous substance and using it as junk.

These crabs are very good to eat; moreover, under the tail of the larger ones there is a great mass of fat, which when melted yields as much as a quart bottleful of limpid oil.

It has been stated by some authors that the *Birgus latro* crawls up the cocoa-nut trees, for the purpose of stealing the nuts. I very much doubt the possibility of this; but with *Pandanus* (to which Mr. Cuming refers as being ascended by this crab) the task would be very much easier. I understand



THE ROBBER CRAB (*BIRGUS LATRO*).

from Mr. Lesk that on these islands the *Birgus* lives only on the nuts which fall to the ground.

It may at first appear that Mr. Cuming's and Mr. Darwin's respective accounts of the non-climbing of this animal, on the one side, and of its actually climbing trees on the other, are contradictory. The height of the stem of the cocoa-nut tree, its circumference, and comparative external smoothness, would certainly prove insurmountable, or at least very serious, obstacles to the most ambitious and most greedy *Birgus*, however large and strong it might be. But these difficulties are by no means so formidable in the plants of the *Pandanus* tribe—a group composed of arborescent or bushy species, with long, thin, rigid, sword-shaped leaves resembling those of the pine-apple, usually arranged in a manner so obviously spiral, that they are commonly called Screw-pines. In the genus *Pandanus* (a word derived from the Malay *Pandang*) the leaves decidedly present this spiral mode of arrangement. The *Pandanus odoratissimus* is celebrated for the fragrance of its essence, and is referred to by the Sanscrit poets under the name of *Ketaka*. It is the *Keora* and *Ketjee* of the Hindus, and the *Kazee* of the Arabs. Oil impregnated with the essence of its flowers and water distilled from them are highly esteemed both for their odour and medicinal qualities. In the peninsula of India this species is called the Caldera bush; and Dr. Roxburgh informs us that it is from the tender white leaves of the flowers, particularly of the male flowers, that the essence is obtained. The lower pulpy part of the drupes is sometimes eaten, as is also the terminal bud, together with the white base of the long acute leaves, either boiled or raw. It forms an excellent hedge, but occupies an inconvenient degree of room. The leaves are composed of tough white longitudinal fibres, well adapted for the fabrication of matting, and cordage for the manufacture of sacks and similar articles. An allied and very fragrant species is common in Tahiti, where it is called the *Wharra tree*; others are found in the Mauritius, where they are known as the *Vaquois plant*. Long roots are thrown off from the sides of the stems of these screw-pines for the purpose of holding them more steadily in the loose sandy or coral-formed soil in which they grow. The fruit consists of a mass of seed berries or ovaries, collected into a tuberculated head. In some species they are dry and fibrous, in others fleshy and succulent.

This slight description of the general character of the *Pandanus*, or screw-pine, will suffice to show that the ascent of these arborescent plants, having the stem furnished with a rigging of cord-like roots, and bearing a multitude of firm, long, and spirally-arranged leaves, will be by no means a work of difficulty, as would necessarily be that of the tall, feathery-topped cocoa-nut tree, destitute of all available points of aid or support. Hence the contradiction in the two accounts referred to is seeming, and not real, and both statements are easily reconciled. We may here observe that fine specimens of the *Birgus* are to be seen in the British Museum.

That, among such animals as the Crab tribes, a tree-climbing species is to be found is certainly curious, but it is not without a parallel among fishes. Among these latter, many leave the water, some even for a long period, and perform overland journeys, aided in their progress by the structure of their fins. In these fishes the gills and gill-chambers are constructed for the retention of water for a considerable time, so as to suffice for the necessary degree of respiration. In our own country we may mention the eel, which, as we know, from personal experience, often voluntarily quits the river or lake, and wanders during the night over the adjacent meadows, probably in quest of dew-worms.

But the marshes of India and China present us with fishes much more decidedly terrestrial, and which (some of them, at least) were known to the ancients.

Among these are several members of a genus called *Ophicephalus* (from their snake-like form). These fishes, having an elongated and cylindrical body, creep on land to great distances from their native waters. The boatmen of India often keep these fishes for a long time out of their true element, for the sake of diverting themselves and others by their terrestrial movements; and children may be often seen pursuing this sort of sport. Of these terrestrial or land-haunting fishes the most remarkable is the *Pannet-eri* (tree-climber), as it is called in Tranquebar. This fish inhabits India, the Indian islands, and various parts of China, Chusan, &c.; living in marshes, and feeding on aquatic in-

sects, worms, &c. Not only does this fish wander on land, but, according to Daldorf, a Danish gentleman, who, in 1797, communicated an account of its habits to the Linnean Society (*Trans. Linn.*, iii., p. 62), it mounts up the bushes or low palms to some elevation. This gentleman states that he has himself observed it in the act of ascending palm-trees near the marshes, and had taken it at a height of no less than five feet, measured from the level of the adjacent water. It effects its ascent by means of its pectoral and under fins, aided by the action of the tail and the spines which border the gill covers. It is by the same agency that it traverses the land. The statement of M. Daldorf is corroborated by M. John, also a Danish observer, to whom we are indebted for the knowledge of its name in Tranquebar, which alludes to its arboreal proceedings.

It is true that many other naturalists, and among them Reinwardt, Leschenault, Hamilton, Buchanan, and others, who have observed the habits of this fish in its native regions, while they concur in describing its terrestrial journeys, and its living for a long time out of water, either omit to mention, or mention with doubt, its asserted essays at tree-climbing. This, however, proves nothing: for example, the *Birgus*, as we have seen, certainly climbs the screw-pines (*Pandanus*), as Mr. Cuming testifies. But, were we to be guided solely by the opinion of Mr. Darwin, which, as far as the cocoa-nut tree is concerned, is no doubt correct—we should be apt to infer, too hastily, that the assertions which have been made as to its climbing at all are totally fallacious. In the case of the fish we have its native Tamul appellation, and the assertions of those who have published accounts of what they have themselves seen. This fish is the *Perca scandens* of Daldorf; *Anabas testudineus* of Cuvier. Its length is six or eight inches.

W. C. L. M.

NOOKS AND CORNERS OF OLD ENGLAND.

THE COWTHORPE OAK.

THERE are few natural objects in this beautiful country of which an Englishman is more proud than its majestic oaks. Among the most celebrated of these trees are the Salcey Forest Oak, once used as a cattle-shed; the Chapel Oak, of Allonville; Damery's Oak, once used as a tavern; Holt Forest Oak; the Prison Oak, of Kidlington; the Worksop Spread Oak; the Greendale Oak; and the Tockwith Oak, which stands within a mile of the Cowthorpe Oak, and is supposed to be "a chip of the old block"; but none of these can compare in dimensions with the Cowthorpe Oak, "the glory of England and the pride of Yorkshire":—

In aged majesty a mighty oak
Towers o'er the subject trees, itself a grove.—OVID.

Loudon's *Gardener's Magazine* states the Cowthorpe oak (*Quercus pedunculata*) to be undoubtedly the largest tree at present known in the kingdom. It stands near the market-town of Wetherby, in the West Riding of Yorkshire.

Dr. Hunter, in Evelyn's "Sylvia," in speaking of the great oak in Holt forest, which at five feet from the ground measures thirty-four feet, says, "However, neither this, nor any of the oaks mentioned by Mr. Evelyn, bear any proportion to one growing at Cowthorpe, near Wetherby."

This giant of the forest, at the venerable age of 1600 years, is fast falling to decay. The south-west side, which is shown in the accompanying Sketch (for which we are indebted to Mr. R. O. Hodgson), betrays marks of excessive violence—the trunk being torn and lacerated by the fall of the mighty arms, the junction of which may yet be clearly traced, and which renders this noble and imposing ruin highly picturesque.

In Hunter's "Evelyn's Sylvia," in 1776, the girth of the trunk close to the ground is stated to be seventy-eight feet; but this measurement probably includes several buttress-like projections that rise from the roots against the trunk. The present girth at the ground is fifty feet, and at a yard high the girth is forty-five feet.

The south-west branch, which extended ninety feet from the trunk, fell in 1718; and another massive limb on the west side, which reached eighty feet from the trunk, the girth of which is supposed to have been sixteen feet, fell in 1772. The greatest living branch (which is propped up) extends fifty feet in a north-easterly direction, and its girth near the trunk is about ten feet. Any of these branches, if planted upright, would have seemed formidable trees.

The trunk has been hollow for generations. A few years since sixty men stood upright inside it, and on another occasion thirty-six sheep were penned within it.

Professor Burnett remarks:—"The history of the oak, whether natural or traditional, is one replete with interest. The reverence in which the tree was held, the oracles sought from it of old, the Druidic priesthood, the superstitions connected with it in other ages, all combine to render the annals of the oak, the chronicles of this forest king, in great part a history of the human race." The same ingenious writer remarks:—"Few persons, save those to whom habit has rendered it familiar, form anything like just estimates of the actual size of trees. The situations in which they commonly are seen,



THE COWTHORPE OAK, NEAR WETHERBY, YORK.

harmonising with the illimitable expanse of heaven, and the wide extent of forest scenery or of mountain heights, lessen ideally their apparent bulk; nor is it till singled from the surrounding landscape, nor even then, until the theodolite and rule proclaim their sums, that we become persuaded of their vast extent. Nay, figures themselves, to the generality of the world, convey but very imperfect conceptions of length, breadth, height, and girth. Some more familiar representations are wanted to prove that a majestic tree, which is only in moderate proportion as an ornament to nature in the country, is really an enormous mass, and would be esteemed a large and glorious structure among the dwellings and palaces of men in town. It is by comparing these forest kings with other majestic objects that we alone become acquainted with their correct capacity. When seeing an oak seven feet in diameter, its size arrests not our attention; we even pass with little thought such as hold ten or twelve feet across, or more, although the smallest of these has a width as great as the carriage-way of Fetter-lane, near Temple-bar, or of Bedford-street, in the Strand."

Oak is often mistaken for chestnut. At a meeting of the Horticultural Society in 1854, for the purpose of comparison, specimens of the timber of our two English kinds of oak (*Quercus pedunculata* and *Q. sessiliflora*) and of Spanish chestnut were furnished by the Vice-Secretary, in order to exhibit the difference that exists between the woods of the pedunculate and sessile-flowered kinds, and chestnut, for which the timber of the last-named oak, when found in old buildings, has generally been mistaken. It was, however, proved by bits of wood from Westminster Hall that the timber in the roof of that building is not chestnut, as is still by many believed, but sessile-flowered oak, which, although softer, more pliable, and, easily worked, was stated to be in all respects superior to the now more common pedunculate kind. If we remember rightly, this matter was decided many years since by Mr. Loudon in his valuable "Arboretum Britannicum."

Two other celebrated Oaks have been engraved in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS: the Avington Gospel Oak, in No. 464; and the Greendale Oak, in Welbeck Park, in No. 337.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

SUNDAY, Feb. 1.—4th Sunday after Epiphany. Partridge-shooting ends.
 MONDAY, 2.—Candlemas Day.
 TUESDAY, 3.—St. Blaise. Volney died, 1757.
 WEDNESDAY, 4.—Stoppage of the United States' Bank, 1840.
 THURSDAY, 5.—St. Agatha. The late Sir R. Peel born, 1788.
 FRIDAY, 6.—Dr. Priestley died, 1804.
 SATURDAY, 7.—Mary, Queen of Scots, beheaded, 1587.

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON-BRIDGE,
FOR THE WEEK ENDING FEBRUARY 7, 1857.

Sunday.	Monday.	Tuesday.	Wednesday.	Thursday.	Friday.	Saturday.
h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m
6 25	5 45	7 10	7 35	8 5	9 35	10 45

LONDON GENERAL OMNIBUS COMPANY.—OPENING

OF CORRESPONDENCE OFFICE, REGENT-CIRCUS, OXFORD-STREET.
 On and after MONDAY, 2nd FEBRUARY, Passengers to or from the undermentioned parts of the Metropolis will have the option of being transferred with "Correspondence Tickets" at the above Office, and travelling throughout for the single charge of Sixpence—
 Shepherd's-bush, Starch-green, Notting-hill, Bayswater, Royal Oak, Kilburn-gate or Great Western Railway, Paddington, any part of Oxford-street or Holborn, St. John's-wood, Islington, that part of the New-road lying between the "Angel" and Trinity Church, Eastern Counties Railway, Mile-end Gate, Whitechapel, Blackwall Railway, London-Bridge, Chelmsford, and Piccadilly.
 Every omnibus belonging to the London General Omnibus Company passing through Regent-circus, Oxford-street, is available for carrying Correspondence Passengers for any place above mentioned. Passengers desiring to avail themselves of the Correspondence service must pay at the Conductor of the first omnibus in which they ride the fare of sixpence, and on alighting at the Correspondence Office take a ticket for their destination, which will pass them free in the second omnibus. Correspondence passengers from the West-end for Hackney, Clapton, Stoke Newington, and Kingsland, Bow, Stratford, or Blackwall, must continue to change only at the office in Bishopsgate, or Whitechapel, as heretofore.
 Correspondence tickets will not be issued on Sundays or Public Holidays.
 Private waiting-rooms, furnished with every convenience for Ladies, are provided at each of the Correspondence offices. By order, A. G. CHURCH, Secretary.
 Office, 454, West Strand, London, 23rd January, 1857.

THE LONDON ARMOURY COMPANY (Limited)

Wholesale Manufacturers of Fire-arms to the Trade and her Majesty's War Department, sole manufacturers of Adams' Patent Revolvers, Bermondsey. Adams' Patent Revolver Pistol, by recent improvements, now combines the following advantages:—
 1st. It can be half cocked for safety in loading, and full cocked so as to take a deliberate aim.
 2nd. The five chambers can be discharged in rapid succession without cocking, by merely pulling the trigger, which has been found essential in close quarters.
 3rd. The new safety bolt fixes the cylinder so as to render an accidental explosion impossible, even when fully capped and charged.
 4th. The new cam-lever rod gives great facilities in loading, and prevents the possibility of the charge moving from jolting in holster or otherwise.
 These improvements have rendered the weapon so perfect that it is now exclusively adopted by her Majesty's War Department.
 To be obtained through any respectable Gunmaker in London, and in the principal towns in the United Kingdom. Price-lists for every description of fire-arms will be forwarded on application to ROBERT ADAMS, Manager.

ESTABLISHED 1806.
COUNTY FIRE OFFICE,

50, Regent-street, and 14, Cornhill, London.
 Capital, £400,000.
 TRUSTEES AND DIRECTORS.
 The Right Hon. Lord Northwick.
 Sir Richard D. King, Bart.
 Sir Guyane Earle Welby, Bart., M.P.
 The Hon. Arthur Kimdaird, M.P.
 Frederick Squire, Esq.
 Sir George R. Osborn, Bart.
 Henry B. Churchill, Esq.
 The Rev. James Sherman.
 The Rev. Isaac Spencer.
 Wm. Henry Stone, Esq.
 &c., &c., &c.
 John A. Beaumont, Esq., Managing Director.
 Charles Stevens, Esq., Secretary.
 The Rates of Premium charged by the County Fire Office are upon the lowest scale consistent with security to the insured.
 When a Policy has existed for seven years, a return of 25 per cent, or one-fourth of the amount of Premiums paid, is declared upon such Policy.
 The Returns paid to the present time exceed £219,000.
 All Losses are settled with promptitude and liberality.
 Prospectuses and full particulars may be obtained upon application to the Agents of the Office in all the principal towns of the United Kingdom, and at the Offices in London.

LONDON LOAN AND DISCOUNT COMPANY

(LIMITED), 2, Duke-street, Adelphi, Strand, London.
 Money advanced without securities. Loans from £5 to £500 with securities. Loans from £5 to £500 without securities. Bills Discounted.

OPENING OF PARLIAMENT.

On SATURDAY next, FEBRUARY 7th, 1857.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS

WILL CONTAIN

A MAGNIFICENT TWO-PAGE

PORTRAIT OF THE QUEEN,

BEAUTIFULLY PRINTED IN COLOURS, AND WORTHY OF THE BEST FRAME.

ALSO, PORTRAITS OF

THE LORD CHANCELLOR

AND

THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS,

CAREFULLY PRINTED IN COLOURS.

With Her MAJESTY'S SPEECH and a full Report of the Debates in Parliament, &c., &c.

This Number will also contain Engravings of the LYING-IN-STATE and FUNERAL OF HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF RUTLAND, at Belvoir Castle, &c.

Regular Subscribers and Purchasers only are entitled to receive this splendid Number. To ensure the Series of beautiful Coloured Supplements, a regular subscription must be paid. And it is recommended that an order to supply the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS regularly be given to any respectable Bookseller or Newsagent, with a request that the Paper be carefully folded and packed.

Price of the Number and Coloured Supplement, 10d.; Stamped Copies, One Shilling, free by post.

The Trade are particularly requested to supply the regular Subscribers; as only a few extra copies will be printed.

Office, 198, Strand, January, 1857.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, JANUARY 31, 1857.

THE capture of Bushire and Karak by the British forces, on the 10th ultimo, has, it appears, inclined the Shah to listen to reason; if not to make an absolute submission to the British Government. The measures of our Commanders in the East were well taken; for, while the Shah found his coasts at the mercy of our naval expedition under Admiral Lake, he found his capital itself menaced by the rapid march of Brigadier Chamberlayne through Cabul. Although the announcement of his submission, and his consequent relinquishment of Herat, is asserted by many to be premature, yet there are few who doubt the ultimate verification of the report. "Short, sharp, and decisive," is, as it should be, the maxim of British statesmen and commanders in all that relates to the policy and wars of the East; and, if the submission of the Shah be confirmed, as we believe it will, the Government may well take credit for the boldness of the attack and the success which has rewarded it. Under these circumstances the mission of Ferouk Khan, the Persian Ambassador Extraordinary to the Court of the Tuileries, which has excited so much sensation in Paris, loses its interest. If the Shah have any objects to serve in connection with France, he is, of course, as free to pursue them as any other Sovereign, European or Asiatic; and the people of England will not object to any alliance that may result between the two, provided it be not formed with any hostile designs against this country. But if the Shah, whether at the instigation of Russia or from any other cause, has indulged the hope of procuring the mediation of France, or any other

European Power, in the differences that have arisen between him and the British Government, and sent Ferouk Khan to Europe for that purpose, he must learn that such interference is not in accordance with British notions. The British people respect the French, know to the full the blessings and advantages of the alliance, and, for sake of its stability and perpetuity, endure with equanimity many little rubs to their national vanity which might otherwise gall them; but they will not submit to the advice, much less to the interference, of the French Government in any matters relating to India, to the safety of our Indian frontier, or to the wars—great or little—in which we may become involved with our treacherous, restive, and unstable neighbours. If we may judge from the speech of Ferouk Khan to the Emperor of the French, and from the general tone of the Emperor's reply, there was a likelihood, if the war had continued, that mediation would have been solicited on the part of Persia, and offered on the part of France. It would then have become the unpleasant, but the imperative, duty of the British Government respectfully, but firmly, to have declined it, and removed the question once for all out of the field of European politics. Ferouk Khan will doubtless soon return to his own country, and may carry back with him much valuable information—which he can gain either in Paris or in London—as to the strength, the wealth, and the spirit of Great Britain. Let him impress on the mind of his Royal master that the English are determined to hold their own in India, and that their power is equal to their will; that they need no alliances in Europe to strengthen their hands in that quarter; and he may prepare the way for a better understanding between Great Britain and Persia than has lately been apparent. His mission will not have been fruitless if such should be its result; and, if his Excellency will favour London with a visit as well as Paris, he will receive a cordial reception, and learn perhaps some other facts that will serve to his still further enlightenment and that of his Sovereign.

At the meeting of "Ticket-of-leave men," summoned on Tuesday evening in the Farringdon Hall, under the immediate auspices of Mr. Henry Mayhew, though under the nominal presidency of the Earl of Carnarvon, some interesting statements were made, which may help to guide our legislators in reconsidering the difficult question of secondary punishments. Two or three facts deserve especial notice. The first is that even ticket-of-leave men may be maligned; and that, as a body, they indignantly disclaim any participation in the cowardly and abominable practice of garotting, at the alleged prevalence of which the public has latterly been so much alarmed. The second is that, although it is extremely difficult, it is not impossible for men who have been convicted of crime to obtain honest employment. Several cases were cited by men who had successfully struggled out of the paths of crime into those of industrious and honourable life, and who were maintaining wives and families on the humble wages of labour, or the scanty profits of the costermonger's cart. In all cases except those of the costermongers the possession of a ticket of leave was a serious, and often fatal, obstacle. The police were continually on the track of the unfortunate holder, betraying to his employer or to his fellow-workmen the unhappy secret of his former conviction and punishment, and causing him, as an almost inevitable consequence, to lose his situation. But with costermongers the case is different. Being their own masters, and trading as entirely on their own account as the merchant-princes of London, it is not in the power of thoughtless or malevolent police constables to do them an injury by the publication of their history to the chance customers who deal with them. Costermongering, having this advantage, and requiring but the modest capital sufficient to hire or buy a vehicle, and to purchase a day's merchandise, becomes the most available resource of ex-convicts, when liberated from prison. But in this crowded city even costermongering is as much overdone as any other calling and pursuit; and it is difficult for every ticket-of-leave man to betake himself to this branch of business and be successful in it. The man who has not a constitution sufficiently powerful to brave all weathers, and a stentorian voice in addition to his other gifts of body, is unable, however honestly disposed, to compete with the louder and more vigorous rivals who monopolize the patronage of the public. But the great and essential fact in connection with these men, which the legislators in both Houses of Parliament, for whose enlightenment Lord Carnarvon more especially summoned them together, should not overlook is, that the ticket of leave is of no use whatever. It is either inoperative, or it works to the injury of those who have the misfortune to have earned it. But if the ticket of leave entitled the holder to a free passage to any of our colonies its possession would be an advantage and boon. The question being put to the meeting whether it would prefer a ticket of leave in England or a ticket of leave in the colonies, every hand in the room was held up in favour of the colonies—and not one in favour of England. This seems to point out a remedy for the evils which afflict these men, and which they in their turn inflict upon society. The law formerly transported them against their will to the colonies. Can society, after a period of probation such as they now endure before they are duly entitled to receive the useless ticket of leave, not transport or convey them to the colonies with their own consent—not as a punishment for crime, but as a reward for their good conduct while in prison? There is no terror in mere transportation, if dissociated from the idea of punishment, for every year upwards of 200,000, if not 300,000, of the inhabitants of the British Isles voluntarily transport themselves beyond the seas, to earn in our colonies the bread and the independence which are denied them at home. If the wishes and feelings of ticket-of-leave men and convicts, who are sincerely anxious to become honest and hardworking, are to guide us at all in the consideration of this question, it behoves philanthropists, lawgivers, and statesmen, to consider well whether this is not the best remedy yet suggested. Some of our colonies might object to receive men thus only half purified from the taint of crime; but others—such, for instance, as Western Australia—would only be too happy to receive them. In regions that require, in order to become rich, prosperous, and powerful, nothing but a few thousands of men and women with strong hands, they would obtain a fair field for the exercise of their industry; and as shepherds,

farm labourers, handicraftsmen, and domestic servants would have the opportunity of becoming a credit to society instead of being, as at present, a misery to themselves, and the opprobrium of a civilisation that can neither kill them nor cure them, and that would rather not endure the burthen of feeding and taking care of them.

THE COURT.

The Queen continues to dispense a Royal hospitality at Windsor Castle. A succession of distinguished visitors have been received during the past week; and the ordinary attractions of the Court have derived additional interest from occasional dramatic performances.

On Saturday her Majesty held an Investiture of the Order of the Bath. The Earl of St. Germans was created a (civil) Knight Grand Cross; and a long list of naval and military officers and some diplomatists received distinctive gradations of the same honourable order. His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge and Viscount Palmerston were among the senior Knights present. Lord Panmure and Sir Charles Wood, as Junior Knights, attended to assist in the Investiture. His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales and the Count of Flanders witnessed the ceremony.

On Sunday the Court attended Divine service in the private chapel of the Castle.

On Monday the Count of Flanders left Windsor on his return to Belgium.

On Tuesday a large accession of visitors arrived at the Castle, among whom were the Russian Minister and the Countess Chreptowitch, the French Ambassador, the Earl of Aberdeen, the Earl and Countess of Clarendon, the Earl and Countess Delawarr, and the Chancellor of the Exchequer and Lady Theresa Lewis. The Countess Chreptowitch, who is a daughter of Count Nesselrode, had not previously been introduced to her Majesty.

On Wednesday morning the Prince Consort enjoyed the sport of shooting in the Royal preserves; the French Ambassador and the Russian Minister accompanying his Royal Highness. In the evening a dramatic performance took place in St. George's Hall. The pieces selected were Mr. Planché's drama of "Secret Service," and Mr. Charles Dance's burlesque entitled "Miss Money." Mr. F. Robson, Mr. F. Matthews, Mrs. A. Wigan, and Miss Heath, represented the principal characters.

On Thursday the Queen and the Prince took an early walk in the Castle grounds.

Lord Dufferin and the Hon. Mortimer Sackville West have succeeded Lord Waterpark and Colonel the Hon. N. Hood as the Lord and the Groom in Waiting on her Majesty.

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS PRINCE ALFRED.—The Queen and the Prince continue to receive the best accounts of the health of his Royal Highness Prince Alfred from Geneva, where he has been residing for some weeks.

Her Serene Highness the Princess Hohenlohe-Langenburg has arrived in England on a visit to her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent.

The Countess Granville has issued cards for an assembly on Monday next, the 2nd proximo.

The Earl of Lucan arrived in town on Saturday from Paris.

Lord and Lady Forester have taken Viscount Maidstone's late mansion, in Audley-square, for the season.

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

THE PRINCESS DE LIEVEN.

THIS lady, so well known in the diplomatic world, whose death has just occurred, was a member of the German family of Benckendorf. Her father was a favourite of Alexander I., Emperor of Russia, and her brother became that monarch's Aide-de-Camp and Minister of Police. The husband of Madame de Lieven was sent as Ambassador from Russia to the Court of Berlin in 1808, and there remained accredited from 1808 to 1812. Somewhere towards the close of 1812 Monsieur de Lieven came to London to represent the Court of the Czar. Madame de Lieven soon made herself agreeable in London society by her talents and accomplishments, and not a little aided her husband as well as Pozzo di Borgo and Gentz, who came on a special service from Austria between 1812 and 1814. The lady had so far ingratiated herself with the aristocracy of rank and fashion in London that she was esteemed a general favourite and a great acquisition to the corps diplomatique. In 1834 M. de Lieven was recalled to St. Petersburg, and was appointed governor and tutor of the Czarowitch (the present Emperor), and with that Imperial Prince made the tour of a great part of Southern Europe. At Rome M. de Lieven was seized with a sudden illness and died on the 10th of January, 1839. After the decease of her husband, Madame de Lieven fixed her residence in Paris in 1839 and 1840, in a large and handsome mansion, and congregated about her the chief political and literary celebrities of France. In her boudoirs the principal business of the Russian embassy was said to be done. Madame de Lieven, in fact, enjoyed much of the confidence of the Emperor Nicholas, who had raised her husband's family to princely rank. For a short period during the embassy of M. Guizot the Princess de Lieven returned to this country. After 1848 she removed to Brussels. Apart from her politics, Madame de Lieven was a lady of accomplishments and esprit, a good linguist, an excellent musician, a good historian, and possessed many other varied talents and attainments.

LADY CARHAMPTON.

MARIA, COUNTESS OF CARHAMPTON, died at her residence at Brighton, on the 18th inst., in her eighty-first year. Her Ladyship was the eldest daughter of John Morgan, Esq., of the Inner Temple, and Recorder of Maidstone, and was the widow of John Luttrell, third and last Earl of Carhampton, to whom she was married in 1798, being his second wife, and had an only daughter, the Lady Maria Anne, who was married, in 1821, to Colonel Hardress Roberts Sanderson, of the county of Cavan. The Earl of Carhampton died on the 17th March, 1829, without male issue; when the Earldom of Carhampton and the other honours of the ancient and distinguished family of Luttrell became extinct.

MR. BARON ALDERSON.

THE HON. SIR EDWARD HALL ALDERSON, First Puisne Baron of the Court of Exchequer, who was the eldest son of Robert Alderson, Esq., barrister-at-law, and for many years Recorder of Norwich, was born at Great Yarmouth, in 1787, and went, when very young, to Caius College, Cambridge, where he attained the highest honours both in classics and mathematics, having been the Senior Wrangler, Smith's prizeman, and Senior Chancellor's medalist, in 1809. He also became a Fellow of Caius College, and took the degree of M.A. there in 1812. He was called to the Bar by the Hon. Society of the Inner Temple in 1811, having previously practised for a very short time as a special pleader; he went the Northern Circuit, and, after some years of unproductive but earnest expectancy and exertion, he contrived, by dint of sheer learning and ability, to obtain considerable practice and high legal standing. What particularly tended to bring him into notice was his editing, from 1818 to 1822, in conjunction with the late Richard Vaughan Barnewall, Esq., the first series of those famous reports of cases decided in the Court of Queen's Bench which, as Barnewall and Alderson's, Barnewall and Cresswell's, and Barnewall and Adolphus's Reports, are familiar as household words to the ears of the profession and the public. Mr. Alderson had, before 1830, attained, both on his circuit and in Westminster Hall, the character of being a sound and scientific lawyer. His practice had largely increased, especially in Liverpool, where most of the important mercantile cases were intrusted to his management. He had reached this prosperous position, when, in the beginning of 1830, he was elevated to the judicial bench as a Justice of the Court of Common Pleas, which office he exchanged in 1834 for that of a Baron of the Exchequer. He was knighted in 1830. As a Judge, Sir Edward Alderson was even more distinguished than as a counsel. On the Bench his legal and general knowledge was most conspicuous; his understanding showed itself to be invariably sound and acute; and to him we owe some of the best judgments that have of late proceeded from the Court of Exchequer, and have added to the fame of that tribunal. Notwithstanding a manner abrupt, and now and then irritable, and a natural sense of the humorous, which led him sometimes to indulge in a joke a little out of place, Sir Edward Alderson was just one of those Judges of whom England is and may well be proud. He was profound, upright, conscientious, and humane. With his brethren of the Bench and with the Bar he was ever a favourite; and with the public his name and character bore such weight and honour as made his decisions sure of popular respect. In private life Mr. Baron Alderson was also much loved and esteemed. He married, in 1823, Georgiana, third daughter of the Rev. Edward Drewe, Rector of Willand, Devon, a scion of the ancient family of the Drewes of the Grange. This lady's elder sisters were Marianne, the wife of Algernon, the third son of Bennet Langton, Esq., and Harriet Maria, the wife of Robert Lord Gifford, Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas. Mr. Baron Alderson died, after a short but severe illness, on the 27th inst., at his residence, 9, Park-crescent, Portland-place. He leaves a large family. Some of his sons are at the Bar. One of them recently succeeded the late Mr. Clarkson as Recorder of Faversham.

We are happy to announce the recovery of D. Jones, Esq., Pantglas, member for Carnarvon, from a very severe ophthalmic affection.

TOWN AND TABLE TALK ON LITERATURE, ART, &c.

READERS at a distance from Great Britain, and readers confined to their rooms by ill health—and there are, alas, too many in this state—will learn with regret that Mr. Thackeray has postponed for another year the publication of a new novel. His lectures on the Four Georges continue so deservedly popular that he has no time for the labours of a new serial. All who have the good fortune to hear Mr. Thackeray can wait more patiently than those who have no opportunity of attending even one of his lectures; but readers in distant colonies will miss a favourite author, whose place in literature is not to be supplied.

Lord Campbell announces a new book, another octavo volume, containing the lives of three of his predecessors on the Bench—Lord Chief Justice Kenyon, Lord Chief Justice Ellenborough, and Lord Chief Justice Tenterden. He is treading on the ashes of the dead, and will tread tenderly. The real excellence of Lord Campbell's biographies consists in what he tells from personal knowledge: what he derives from books is about as poor as poor can be.

We hope that there is no truth in a rumour now current that part of the first two thousand pounds voted by the House for Lord Stanhope's Portrait Gallery of British Worthies will be spent in paying for copies of pictures of which the originals are not to be had for love or money. Let the first two thousand pounds be spent in obtaining the best original portraits that can be obtained, and gifts of moment will inmediately follow. The trustees, it is said, are already named: Lord Stanhope is, of course, one; and a house for the reception and exhibition of purchases and gifts has been all but finally chosen by Sir Benjamin Hall.

The Guildhall monument (by Bell) to the Duke of Wellington is all but erected. The Duke is *up*—and up a little too high, it is said; for the fine bust of the great soldier (carved, we are told, in Mr. Bell's very best manner) is seen but very indifferently by spectators in the Hall. Beckford's monument, in its new position, looks as formerly—poor as a work of art, but very interesting from the historical importance of the never-delivered speech which it carries as an inscription.

The new, the almost as yet unpublished, number of the *Quarterly* contains a capital anecdote of Lord Raglan when wounded at Waterloo. The authority is the Prince of Orange. The Prince, we are told, used to recount that not a word announced the entry of a new patient, nor was he conscious of the presence of Lord Raglan (then Lord Fitzroy Somerset) till he heard him call out in the usual way—"Hallo! don't carry away that arm till I have taken off my ring." Neither the wound nor the operation had extorted a groan from the wounded soldier.

Our readers will be happy to learn that Mr. Roberts has carefully retouched and finished up for the Manchester Exhibition his large and beautiful sunset view of Rome, exhibited two years ago.

Mr. Ruskin has sounded (so his admirers admit) the first loud note of his recantation. He is no longer Turner-mad (*read* his new pamphlet); he is hardly Turner-bitten. Like a Bedlamite recovered, the foam of his dogmatism has subsided into a more sober admiration. As the film passes from his eyes, he begins to see an absence of nature in many of Turner's productions, and a little infinitesimal kind of merit in the "light Lorraine" and the "learned Poussin." We utter not our own words; such is the talk, and in good circles. Those who have pooh-poohed him from the first foretell a louder recantation, and boldly bet, in the true style of Tattersall's or White's, that before another season is over he will have become so tired of his Turner triumphs that he will take (not for money) advantage of the market, and turn his collection into Christie and Manson's, or Sotheby and Wilkinson's. The jeerers laugh loudly at a passage in his newly-published "Notes on the Turner Acquisition to the National Gallery," where he detects, or imagines he detects (not unlikely), that a certain "dark bottle" which a fisherman shakes, it is said, at his wife contains a cribbed quantity of cognac—thus explaining (what will not an artistic eye discover?) that this otherwise unreasonably-excited fisherman has excellent reason for the supposed angry manner of his supposed farewell to his supposed wife. The force of folly can no further go. Will, it is said, the next of Turner's kin kindly ask Mr. Ruskin to drop Turner from this day forth? "Your 'caveat' was successful, Mr. Next-of-Kin—but you have still your 'stock'—and a writer of excellent English, at Denmark-hill, is unintentionally damaging your property. Men at Manchester and Liverpool will cry off. Take care, Messrs. Gambart, Grundy, and Graves; you may have too much of a good thing; collectors are led, not driven. And this melancholy Turner tomfoolery (as a very unbedlamite painter called it) is now at turning-point.

Who has not heard of the tons of books of every kind sent to our noble, suffering soldiers in the Crimea? Many a London swell stripped his *once* well-filled father's shelves—part of a fine inheritance—of its replenished contents of recently-published books—mixed and curious—to send to the Crimea. Everybody in (what now appears) a wild fit of philanthropy sent crates of every size and character to friendly receivers in London and the many outposts of England. These crates, of

All such reading as was never read,

reached, strange to say, their Balacava landing. What was their fate? The noble soldiers smelt the contents afar off, and within the last few months these self-same crates of this benevolent trash in literature was returned to London unopened. The contents of these many crates have since been sold for waste paper; for, after vain endeavours to pass them—even on common booksellers and hack auctioneers—this literature for the suffering has gone to the mill and the butter-merchant, and the money obtained will not pay the cost of its freightage home. How that true son of Adam Smith, Mr. McCulloch, must have laughed at the trash which, as Comptroller of the Stationery-office, he was obliged to condemn as unworthy of the donors, and, worse still, unworthy of the literature which he has done so much to illustrate and adorn!

A word about the present Lord Lyttelton. "Free as young Lyttelton" is part of a fine passage in one of Pope's finest works. The compliment was well deserved—the Lyttelton of Pope was the sustaining friend of the two best writers of his age who stood in need of support—the author of "The Seasons" and the author of "Tom Jones." The Lord Lyttelton of our day follows not with slavish folly the free and manly footsteps of the good Lord Lyttelton. Very thoughtful was his Lordship's recent lecture on Shakspeare at the Manchester Athenæum.

A bit of news connected with art reached us as we passed the Royal Academy. Young Lord Cowper has lent his fine Raphaels to the Manchester Exhibition. Such Raphaels! the *Panshanger* Raphaels!

The funeral of the lamented artist Krüger took place last Sunday morning at Berlin. The carriages of their Majesties and of some of the Princes, the servants in State liveries, followed in the procession. All the most eminent patrons of the arts and artists were present.

MUSIC.

THE SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY have made an important addition to their *répertoire* by the production of one of the greatest works of Mendelssohn, hitherto little known to the English public—the music to the lyrical parts of Racine's tragedy of "Athalie." It was performed at Exeter-hall on Friday, the 23rd inst., together with Rossini's "Stabat Mater," performed by the Sacred Harmonic Society for the first time. The announcement of these pieces, especially the first, excited great interest, and the hall was filled by an immense assemblage.

Mendelssohn's "Athalie" belongs to an ancient form of music, which he may be said to have revived. It belongs to a series of works which occupied him during the latter period of his life, having been preceded by his music to the choral portions of the "Antigone" and the "Œdipus" of Sophocles. After having succeeded so splendidly in his essays to clothe in music the lyrical strains of the ancient Grecian dramatist, he was induced to make a similar essay on a modern classical drama, "which" (says Schlegel), "of all the French tragedies, approaches the nearest to the grand style of the Greeks." It is said that he undertook this task at the instance of the King of Prussia, who desired to have a German version of Racine's play produced on the Berlin stage, accompanied (as the two *chefs d'œuvre* of Sophocles had previously been) with the music of Mendelssohn. He wrote the music accordingly, with the view of its being introduced into a complete representation of the tragedy. But the music became afterwards to be performed in the concert-room, without theatrical action; the lyrical portions of the tragedy being connected by the recitation of a narrative poem, which served to explain the subject and incidents of the piece. Soon after this work had appeared in Germany it was introduced to this country. The poem, recited along with the performance of the choral lyrics, was written by Mr. Bartholomew, whose name is so closely associated with that of Mendelssohn as his friend and literary coadjutor. It is original and independent of the German poem, and does honour to Mr. Bartholomew's judgment and taste. In this manner the music was first performed in 1849 before the Queen at Windsor, and afterwards at two concerts of the Philharmonic Society. On those occasions it was heard by very limited audiences; and it may be said that it has only now been brought, by the grand performance of the Sacred Harmonic Society, before the British public. In its present manner of performance, though it was not contemplated by Mendelssohn, "Athalie" has been changed from a tragedy to an oratorio. Handel's oratorio of "Athalie" was also founded on Racine's play, but the form of the two works is entirely different. In the tragedy the choral lyrics constitute the conclusion or finale of each act; and in Mendelssohn's music the whole of Racine's noble poetry is preserved, the intermediate links being supplied by the recitation. The poem of Handel's oratorio is feeble and flat. The English writer borrowed the subject and incidents from Racine, but none of his inspiration; nor has Handel been happy in his music, which has fallen into oblivion.

The performance of what we may call Mendelssohn's Oratorio at Exeter-hall was of the most magnificent description. The poem was recited by Mr. Phelps, with the impressive dignity to be expected from that eminent tragedian. The solo parts (all for female voices) were sung by Madame Clara Novello, Miss Sherrington (now Madame Lemmens), and Miss Dolby. Mr. Costa had evidently bestowed the utmost care upon the rehearsals; and, though it was a first performance, the grand choral music was sung with a degree of precision, delicacy, and power which the Exeter-hall choristers have seldom equalled, even in the oratorios most familiar to them. The effect of the whole was prodigious, and the general feeling was enthusiastic admiration and delight. As "Athalie" is almost the latest work of its lamented author, so it is among his greatest. It is the consummation of musical art, and accordingly combines the very height of sublimity and beauty with the greatest simplicity and clearness; speaking a language which appeals, not merely to the judgment of connoisseurs and critics, but to the ear and the heart of every one who "hath music in his soul." Hence, we doubt not, "Athalie" (we wish it had been called "Athaliah") will reach a degree of popularity in England not exceeded even by that of "Elijah."

Rossini's "Stabat Mater," though never before performed by the Sacred Harmonic Society, is well known to the musical public, and calls for little remark. Though it and "Athalie" are as "far as the poles asunder," yet the one was a very agreeable sequel to the other—agreeable from their very dissimilarity. Rossini's music, though void of the severe grandeur of the ecclesiastical style, and redolent of the opera-house rather than of the church, is exceedingly beautiful; and its sweet, flowing, graceful airs, and pure, simple, resonant harmonies, cannot be listened to, when well performed, without exquisite pleasure. The solo parts were sung by Madame Clara Novello, Miss Dolby, Mr. Sims Reeves, and Signor Belletti;—a better choice could not be made; and the choral pieces were carefully and smoothly executed. The audience were delighted, and showed their pleasure by the unrestrained warmth of their applause.

MR. GEORGE FORBES'S Second Subscription Concert at St John's-wood took place on Tuesday evening last. The principal performer was Miss Louisa Vinning, who sang the cavatina, "Tacea la Notte," from the "Trovatore," Donizetti's romance, "Come è bello," Frank Mori's pretty ballad, "The Rustic Gate," and (with Mr. Tennant) the duet, "Parigi o cara." She sang admirably and was greatly applauded. Mr. Lester, a young singer, made his first public appearance with great success. His voice is of a class very rarely met with—a pure counter-tenor of extraordinary compass, extending to E natural (the fourth space in the treble clef), and possessed of singular volume and sweetness. He sang Macfarren's song, "The Ring," and Holmes's "Good night, beloved;" and, in both, the audience appeared to be surprised as well as delighted with his vocal power, and his taste and feeling. Mr. Lester is a performer much wanted at the present time, and cannot fail of success. Mr. Forbes performed a new fantasia composed by himself, on subjects from the "Traviata," and (with Piatti) Beethoven's Sonata in A for the piano and violoncello. He is one of our most accomplished pianists, both in respect to execution and style; and his chamber-concerts are always among the most elegant entertainments of the season.

MISS CATHERINE HAYES AT BELFAST.—Miss Catherine Hayes is on a tour in Ireland, accompanied by Mlle. Corelli (contralto), Signor F. Lablache (barytone), and Signor Millardi (tenor); and by Mr. G. A. Osborne, composer and pianist, as conductor. The Belfast papers state that Miss Hayes was enthusiastically received in that town. The grand scena and aria, "Softly sighs the voice of evening," was given delightfully, evincing by every note she sang the beauty, richness, and power of her voice in all its ranges. Signor Millardi then followed, in aria, "Bel adorata." Applause, hearty and sustained, rewarded this gentleman in his performances during the evening. After this solo Miss Hayes again appeared, and in her charming style sang "The Last Rose of Summer," which was encored. She reappeared, and delighted her admirers with "The harp that once through Tara's halls." Mlle. Corelli next sang the cavatina, "In questo semplice," by Donizetti, and was warmly applauded for the sweet and agreeable style in which she rendered it. The first part of the programme was concluded with a duo by Miss Hayes and Signor Lablache, "Signorina in tanta fretta," from "Don Pasquale." After an interval of some ten minutes the second part of the performance commenced with a duo, "Versatemi del vino," by Lablache and Millardi. Miss Hayes then sang "Home, sweet home," and, in compliance with an enthusiastic encore, she gave "Coming through the rye." This appeared to be the gem of the evening, if we are to judge by the outbursts of delighted and gratified feeling it evoked.

THE MUSICAL UNION, under the direction of Mr. ELLA, is about to give three soirées before Easter, at Willis's Rooms. In addition to the usual selections of classical instrumental music, these performances will be varied by the introduction of sacred and secular compositions sung by a chamber choir, under the direction of Mr. Land. The Matinees, as usual, will commence after Easter, for which, we are informed, the subscription is already very large.

MDME. GRISI has just returned to London from Paris to fulfil an engagement with Mr. Beale in the provinces. The success which has attended her performances in the "Trovatore" at the Italian Opera-house in Paris is the greatest event of the musical season, larger audiences having been assembled to witness the opera than have been seen in the Salle Ventadour since the memorable year 1847.

MARYLEBONE THEATRE.—Mr. Emery is endeavouring to make this theatre popular. An American family of the name of Howard have invested their united talent in a new version of "Uncle Tom's Cabin," in which *Eva* is the central figure, and which peculiar

character is, we should say, rather impersonated than performed by little Cordelia Howard, whose simple and natural manner renders the representation a marvel in its way. It is said that the piece has been acted one hundred and eleven times in New York. The character of *Topsy* is also cleverly and very originally acted by Mrs. Geo. C. Howard, who gives a new view of negro life, presenting its more ferocious features. Mr. George Howard individualises the melancholy *St. Clair*. The death of poor *Eva* is succeeded by the spectacle of her spiritual appearance. Altogether the piece is pathetic and affecting, and received much applause from a large audience.

COUNTRY NEWS.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS AT THE CAMBRIDGE OBSERVATORY, FOR THE WEEK ENDING JAN. 28, 1857.

Day.	Barometer at 9 A.M. (88 feet above level of the sea, corrected for altitude).	Thermometer Attached.	Highest Temperature.	Lowest Temperature.	Mean.	Dry Bulb at 9 A.M.	Wet Bulb at 9 A.M.	Direction of Wind.	Amount of Cloud. (0-10)	Rain in Inches.
Jan. 22	29.851	35.6	41.6	28.1	34.9	34.7	33.8	N.N.W.	2	0.092
" 23	30.332	36.8	40.5	31.8	36.1	37.4	35.2	W.N.W.	10	0.055
" 24	29.089	36.1	40.0	31.8	35.9	37.3	37.2	N.W.	10	0.516
" 26	29.709	35.5	36.9	30.3	33.6	33.8	33.6	N.	10	0.019
" 27	30.928	33.6	34.3	28.3	31.3	31.5	30.5	N.W.	4	0.000
" 28	29.898	30.8	32.6	21.2	26.9	24.2	24.0	N.	0	0.014
Means	29.635	34.7	37.6	28.6	33.1	33.2	32.4			0.696

The range of temperature during the week was 20.4 deg. Snow fell on the evening of the 25th and morning of the 26th, and remained on the ground during the 27th and 28th. On the afternoon of the latter day snow again fell, but ceased at 6 p.m., when the sky became brilliantly clear. Hoar frost covered the ground on the mornings of the 22nd, 27th, and 28th.

Heavy rain fell during the day and evening of the 24th, and also on the night of the 22nd and morning of the 23rd.

The sky has been much overcast, but was very clear on the nights of the 27th and 28th and at midnight of the 25th, and was partially clear on the days of the 22nd, 23rd, 27th, and 28th. J. BREEN.

REPRESENTATION OF SALFORD.—Mr. E. R. Langworthy, the candidate for the representation of Salford, in place of the late Mr. Brotherton, addressed the electors on Tuesday evening, and met with a very enthusiastic reception. After answering some questions—in the course of which he said he thought that the franchise should be coextensive with intelligence and education, that he considered church-rates unjust and unfair, that he was opposed to the principle of Sturges Bourne's Act, that he should support the Factory Act, that he was disposed to support the Maynooth grant, that he did not think Sunday bands so great a desecration of the Sabbath as some of his friends did, but that he should hesitate to support the legislation of them if he felt that a large number of his fellow-citizens esteemed it a point of conscience to oppose them, and that he was for the abolition of the ecclesiastical courts—a resolution that he was eminently qualified to represent the borough of Salford in Parliament was carried, with only one dissentient voice. It was expected that the nomination would be fixed for Monday next.

EARTHQUAKE.—(To the Editor of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.)—A slight shock of earthquake was felt here at twenty minutes past three p.m. yesterday. There was a heavy rumbling noise, like that of a luggage-train at the distance of half-a-mile, and at the same time a tremulous motion was felt on the soles of the foot. The earthquake pendulum (which is thirty-three feet in length) moved from west to east, and the extent of the movement was less than the eighth of an inch. The noise and motion lasted about a minute. It was also heard at the Highfield House Observatory.—I am, &c., E. J. LOWE, Observatory, Beeston, near Nottingham, Jan. 26, 1857.

FALL OF A RAILWAY BRIDGE.—Last Monday the traffic of the line of railway between Coventry and Nuneaton (a branch of the London and North-Western) was for a time completely stopped by the falling in of a viaduct at Cowden, a short distance from Coventry. The bridge, which is of several arches, is of stone, and carries over the rails a very important old turnpike road of the district; but, fortunately, at the time the accident occurred, not the slightest injury befell either the road or railway travellers. A train had passed under the bridge only a short time before, but, besides the damage sustained by the railway company and the detention of trains, no injury was sustained by any individual.

A BOY CAPTAIN.—The brig *James*, of Leith, which arrived at this port on the 22nd inst., with a cargo of timber, was navigated across the Atlantic by a boy of fifteen, assisted only by coloured seamen, her captain and crew having all died of yellow fever at Demerara, with the exception of the boy, cook, and mate; and the latter fell from the yard on the 1st instant, and was killed.—*Belfast News Letter*.

TICKET-OF-LEAVE MEN.—The following humane advertisement appears in the Manchester newspapers:—"Ticket-of-leave men in Manchester. Should there be any ticket-of-leave men in Manchester out of employment, who are desirous of obtaining an honest livelihood, they may with confidence give their names, and where they may be communicated with, and there will be an endeavour to obtain employment for them.—Address K 29, at the printer's."

THE BANK CHARTER ACT.—The following reply has been returned to the memorial recently forwarded to the Treasury by the Edinburgh Chamber of Commerce on the subject of the Bank Charter Act:—Treasury Chamber, January 22, 1857.—Sir,—The Lords Commissioners of her Majesty's Treasury having had before them the memorial of the Chamber of Commerce and Manufactures in Edinburgh, dated the 18th inst., recommending the introduction of a bill into Parliament, authorising the transfer to the Issue Department of the Bank of England of additional securities to the value of £4,000,000, and the creation of notes to that amount, have commanded me to acquaint you in reply that, as it is probable that the attention of Parliament may be called to the law as it relates to the privileges of the Bank of England, and the Act of 1844, my Lords feel that they will best consult the public convenience and interests by postponing any expression of opinion upon this subject. I am to add, however, that the views expressed in the memorial of the Chamber of Commerce shall receive due consideration.—I am, Sir, your obedient Servant, JAMES WILSON.

NORFOLK ISLAND.—The Government having decided on the erection of a large prison at Norfolk Island for the reception of convicts under sentence of transportation, an order has been forwarded from the War Office to Colonel H. Sandham, director of the Royal Engineers' establishment at Brompton-barracks, Chatham, directing him to hold in readiness one company of that corps, with a proportion of officers and non-commissioned officers, to embark forthwith for Norfolk Island, for the purpose of assisting in the erection of the convict establishment at that station.

THE BULLION ROBBERY.—DECISION OF THE JUDGES AS TO THE PROPERTY.—Mr. Baron Martin and Mr. Justice Willes sat on Tuesday afternoon, in the Exchequer Chamber at Westminster, for the purpose of hearing the several parties claiming to be entitled to the Turkish Bonds and other property found in the possession of the prisoners Pierce, Burgess, and Tester, who were convicted of the robbery of bullion upon the South-Eastern Railway. At the conclusion of the trial, Mr. Baron Martin expressed an opinion that these securities ought to be given to Fanny Kay for the benefit of herself and the child of Agar. Since then the Sheriffs of London and Middlesex have claimed the property, as being found in the possession of a felon, on behalf of the Crown; and a host of other claimants have also put forward what they conceive to be their rights in reference to the property in question. Mr. Sleigh contended that, under the recent charters granted to the Corporation of the city of London, the property of all felons convicted in the City was forfeited, and that the Sheriffs, by virtue of their offices, ought, therefore, to have the custody of all the property taken from the prisoner Pierce. Mr. Petersdorff, on behalf of Mr. Seward, claimed a sum of £260 for costs that had been incurred by him in conducting some legal proceedings for the prisoner Pierce. Mr. Beard, on behalf of Mrs. Tester, claimed the property taken from her husband (which consisted of Spanish Bonds) upon a settlement made by him before his trial. The Judges at once decided that neither of the latter two parties had any legal claim. Mr. Seward could have no right to be paid his debt out of property on which the Crown had a title; and with reference to Mrs. Tester, the bonds in question were distinctly made out to be the result of the proceeds of the stolen gold, and she, therefore, could claim no right to them. Mr. Bodkin said that, on behalf of the railway company, all he asked the Court was to order that the property, which was undoubtedly the produce of the robbery that had been committed upon them, should be delivered up. They had paid £10,000 as the value of the gold that had been stolen, and the company only desired that they should be treated like other prosecutors, and have returned to them that which was clearly made out to be the produce of the stolen property. After some discussion the Judges made an order that the company should have restored to them so much of the property as was shown to be the result of the robbery, and that the remainder should be given into the custody of Sir Richard Mayne, to abide any future orders that may be given respecting it.

T H E W A R W I T H C H I N A.



THE BRITISH FACTORIES AT CANTON.—(SEE PAGE 80.)

WE have been favoured by a Correspondent with the accompanying letters and chart describing the recent operations against the Chinese at Canton:—

H.M.S. *Encounter*, off Canton, Nov. 10.

No doubt you expected we should have been on our way home by this, but we always fall in for some fighting, and are now up here

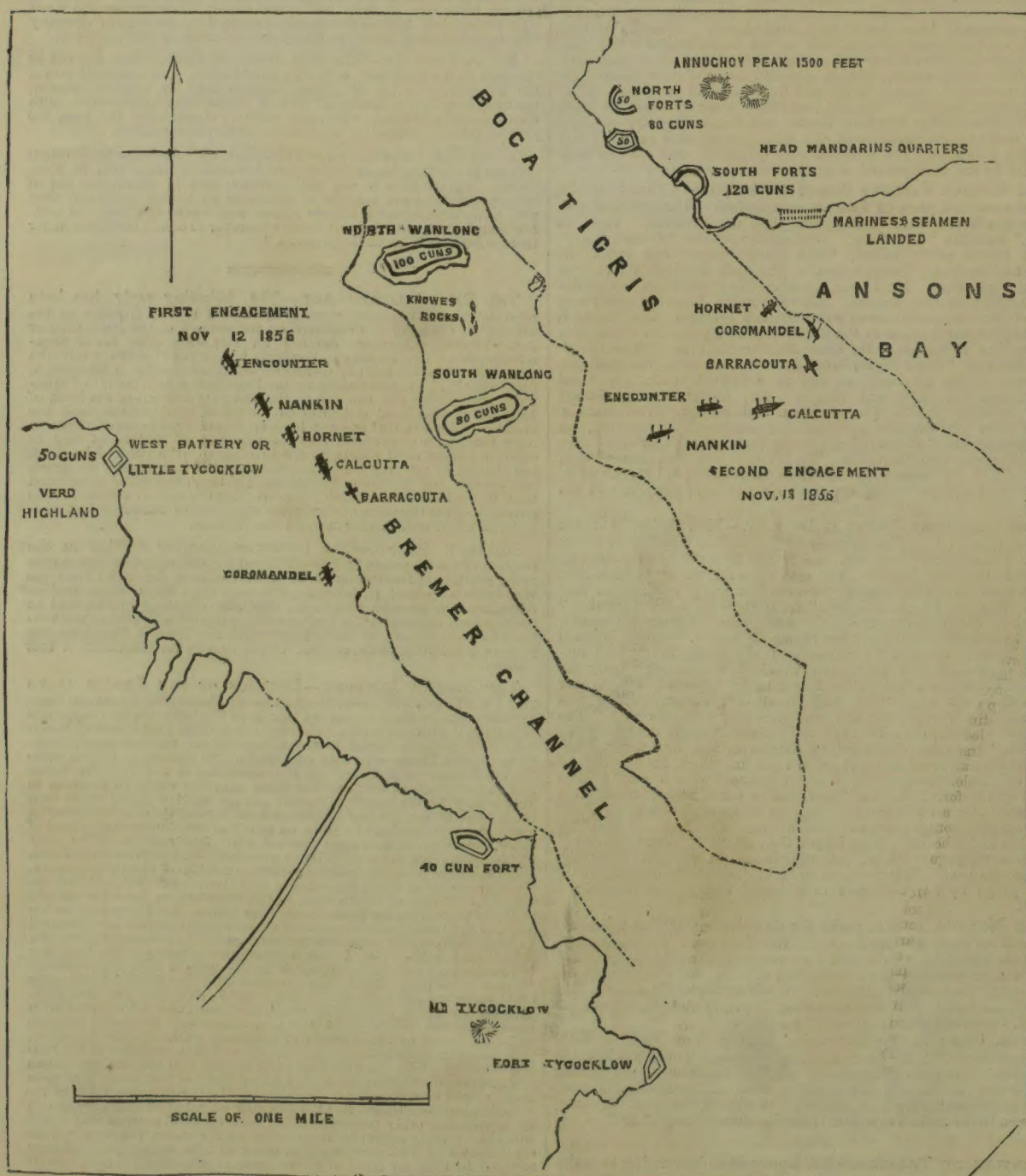
bombarding Canton. We have had some sharp work, and have taken the principal part of their forts; one with eighty-six guns, larger than any used in Europe, a brass one weighing nearly twelve tons. A few days since we took twenty-two of their war-junks—some with twelve, and none with less than eight, guns, twenty-four and thirty-two pounders; these we burnt, and spiked their guns. But we have found spiking guns of little use here, for the Chinese are capital hands at reborring them; and, when they cannot manage that, they turn the gun over and bore a fresh vent on the opposite side. Yesterday we were busy making a chain of junks across the river, above and below the ships, for they tried to set fire to us three nights ago: they chain a number of their large junks together filled with combustibles, and large pieces of timber hollowed out and filled with powder, the explosion of which is very pretty at night; but, thank Heaven, they have not done us any harm. The large ships cannot get up here, but are anchored about fifteen miles down the river. All the marines and small-arms men are ashore, to protect the English settlement. The flag is in this ship, and the Admiral is living on shore; he is a fine fellow, and lots of fight in him. The Chinese soldiers we are now keeping at bay are about 30,000. The city contains 3,000,000 inhabitants, and is very wealthy. We have burnt some of the suburbs, but the Admiral is sparing the city. Day and night they keep us on the alert with the fire-rafts they drop down with the ebb tide; and the only way to avoid them is to slip and steam up above them. As this is a useful ship, drawing only fifteen feet water, with 68 and 84 pounders, the Admiral will not be able to spare us till some satisfactory conclusion is come to.

Nov. 14.

Since writing this letter we have had a job to take some forts called the Bocca Tigris, containing 500 of the largest guns I ever saw—none less than ten inches bore, and some of the brass ones thirteen inches. We towed the *Nankin* into action, the *Barracouta* towed the *Calcutta* (the flag-ship). After two hours' firing we manned boats of squadron, and took the two large forts on Wanlon Island, containing 100 guns each. The moment the men got on shore the Chinese took to their boats, and those the boats would not hold took to the water. An immense number of them were drowned from its being spring tide; many were picked up in our boats and landed. We began the action on the 12th at seven a.m., and finished it yesterday by noon, with very little harm done to us or the ships.

The Russians appear to be very much alarmed at our proceedings in China. A letter from St. Petersburg of the 8th, in the *Journal des Débats*, says:—

The news of the attack on Canton by the English fleet has produced a considerable sensation here. It appears certain that dépôts of goods belonging to Russian merchants have been burnt, and that their loss of property has been considerable. This act, which is perfectly unjustifiable, and for which no serious motive can be assigned, is regarded here as the prelude to the conquest which the English propose to themselves to make of the Island of Chusan. The Russian Government is perfectly aware of the intentions of the English, and of all the plans which they meditate in China, and for which purpose they have been for some years past very quietly increasing the naval force on that station, until they have now a very formidable fleet there. All the intrigues carried on by English agents, with a view to ruin the important commercial relations which the Russian merchants carry on with China through the town of Kiaocha, are well known at St. Petersburg. It does not unfrequently happen that large quantities of tea of the finest qualities thus imported by land into Russia are purchased by English houses, and sent to London. It is well known with what jealousy the English watch the progress of the Russian military and commercial establishments on the river Amur, where we already touch, by the south of Siberia, for a distance of more than 400 kilometres (250 miles), on the Chinese frontier. All the triangle between that part of Siberia and of the Amur, and of which Nicholaleff has been designed by the Emperor to be the new capital, may now be considered as definitively belonging to the Russian empire. The intelligent men who were sent some years ago into those distant countries have so well secured Russian domination there that all commercial affairs with the Chinese provinces may be said to be exclusively in the hands of Russian merchants. The anxiety of the English to dislodge the Russians from these countries may be thus readily conceived, but they will have the more difficulty in effecting their purpose that the different Russian military establishments along the Amur are becoming every day more and more formidable. It may be also remembered that the English made a fruitless attempt in 1855 to penetrate with their squadron into this river, the mouth of which has been since so well fortified that it would now cost immense efforts and sacrifices to force this new Cronstadt with vessels of war.



PLAN OF THE ATTACK ON THE FORTS AND BATTERIES OF CANTON, NOV. 12 AND 13, 1856.

T H E W A R W I T H P E R S I A .



THE PESHAWUR MOUNTAIN TRAIN IN THE LINE OF MARCH.

We have been favoured by an accredited Correspondent, of the Punjaub Artillery, with the two accompanying Sketches of the movement of troops towards the seat of the War with Persia:—

Camp Thull, Meranzale Valley, Nov. 30, 1856.

I send you two Sketches, which represent the mode of transporting field Artillery over the mountain passes on the Punjaub frontier. The Views were taken during the late expedition into the Koorum Valley, commanded by Brigadier Chamberlain, and as the troops were about to enter the Durwauzah (door) Pass.

The gun—a 9-pounder, or 24-pounder howitzer—is carried on one elephant, the carriage on a second, and a third carries the ammunition. A gun can be dismounted and packed on an elephant in this manner in ten minutes; and can be unpacked and prepared for action in less than that time.

The second Sketch represents the Peshawur Madras Force on the line of march. A gun, or howitzer, and its carriage are carried on three mules, exclusive of the mules for ammunition. This battery for the march can be prepared for action in less than a minute, and can

be again packed and got ready for the march in a much shorter time. This expedition has been so far useful, that nothing was before known of the country except from native information: now a most valuable survey has been made by Lieut. Garnett, of the Engineers, and Lieut. Lumsden of the Quartermaster-General's Dépôt; while the Koorum Valley may now be considered the high road between India and Cabul, being much more practicable in every point of view than through the Khybur Pass. Dost Mahomed is to be at Peshawur to meet Sir John Lawrence, on the 10th proximo.



PUNJAB BATTERY PREPARING TO ENTER THE DURWANZAL PASS INTO THE KOORUM VALLEY.

THE COMING SESSION.

A RETROSPECT of the period which has elapsed since the prorogation of Parliament shows that six months cannot pass over the heads of any given body of men without producing many changes. Death and circumstances have caused several alterations in the personal constitution of both Houses of the Legislature during their annual recess.

As the new Palace of Westminster, notwithstanding its having been in course of construction for nearly a quarter of a century, is still an unfinished building,—that has also been subject, in a certain degree, to the process of mutation since it was last occupied for the business of the nation. As regards the external appearance of the structure there is little difference to observe. The Clock Tower, which has been a subject of some notoriety in the last two or three months, remains outwardly in an unfinished state: its summit is still encrusted with bird's-nest scaffolding; the face of the clock is still covered with rough unsightly boarding; while "Big Ben," reposing at the base of the Tower, holds a continuous reception of visitors every day from nine till dusk.

The Victoria Tower has approached so far towards completion as to have had its last story crowned by the wooden outlines of the four turrets which are to adorn its angles. The turrets themselves are still, however, in "supposition," and workmen are busy in the interior of the tower, getting into shape the sixteen floors which it contains, each of which consists of four rooms. The frontage of the building, extending from the Victoria Tower to St. Stephen's Porch, which looks into Old Palace Yard, and which forms the façade of the House of Lords, is in a state of great forwardness, but is not so far completed as to allow of the removal of the hoarding which disfigures and partly conceals so important a portion of the structure. Altogether, the aspect of affairs on the outside of the Palace generally is unsatisfactory and unsightly, and no very perceptible improvement has been made in that respect during the recess.

On entering Westminster Hall it will be observed that the temporary candelabra, six in number, with which the hall has hitherto been lighted have been replaced by very handsome permanent ones, gorgeous with gilding and bronze. The design of the burners is the same as that of the large and elaborate lantern which illuminates the central hall. In St. Stephen's Hall statues of Charles Fox (by Baily) and of the Earl of Chatham (by Macdowell) have been placed on two of the hitherto vacant pedestals. Only three of those now remain unoccupied, and these it is understood will be filled by marble portraits of William Pitt, Burke, and Grattan. A cast of the statue of the latter was for a time placed for trial on the pedestal appointed for it, and it is supposed that the statue itself will be erected ere long. In the corridor leading to the lobby of the House of Lords a single fresco has been painted by Cope, entitled "The Embarkation of a Puritan Family for America." It is executed with great care and finish, the grouping is good, and the subject generally treated in a suggestive manner; but it wants breadth; and somehow it gives one a notion of want of appropriateness to the corridor of the Lords. In the Prince's Chamber, which, as is well known, is the principal antechamber and writing-room to the House of Lords, Gibson's marble group of the Queen, attended by Justice and Mercy, has been placed in the recess which has been prepared for its reception. Whatever may be its merits as a work of art, the group as it is now located is singularly ineffective. It is stuck against the wall in such a position that it cannot be seen with any satisfaction unless the spectator goes a long way back into the Victoria Corridor, leading into the Prince's Chamber; while the principal figure is perched so high, that its head, and the top of the chair in which it is seated are very nearly touching the ceiling. It is, in fact, a piece of sculpture better suited for the centre of the quadrangle of a palace than for a recess in a room which is only about the size of a well-proportioned library. Proceeding with a survey of the interior of the House of Lords and its appurtenant accommodation, attention may be directed to the extensive suite of apartments which is situated in the long range of building which looks into Old Palace-yard, and forms, as has been said, the land-side frontage of the House of Lords. On reaching the top of the staircase which leads from the Peers' entrance into the approaches to the House, it will be found that an extensive corridor stretches on the right to a door leading into St. Stephen's Hall, and on the left to the river front. On the ground-floor of this range are situated a number of rooms which are appropriated to the Lord Chancellor and his attendants, and to the Clerk of Parliaments. The Lord Chancellor's private room is exactly over the central porch, which forms the Peers' entrance into Old Palace-yard. It is a very handsome apartment, the ceiling being a remarkably superb specimen of the carving and gilding which characterises the general ornamentation of the House. The furniture and fittings are rich and appropriate, and the rooms will be ready for occupation by the meeting of Parliament. Over this suite of rooms, on the second floor, are placed the offices of the numerous coadjutors of the Clerk of Parliaments, and they are already occupied by their appointed tenants. In passing down the corridor on the right-hand side, and almost opposite the door of the Lord Chancellor's private room, there may be seen a large, lofty, and exquisitely-proportioned room, lighted solely from the roof, which is entirely composed of glass. It is not yet finished, but is fast approaching completion. It is understood that it is hereafter to be designated the "Painted Chamber," and will be used as a robing-room for Peers and for conferences between the two Houses. A few steps to the right of the door of this room a corridor commences which leads straight into the lobby of the House of Lords and is intended as the passage by which the Lord Chancellor is to reach the House; so that, for the future, his diurnal procession will be similar to that of the Speaker of the Commons, who always makes his entry through the lobby and the principal door of the House; whereas the Chancellor has hitherto marched down one of the private corridors of the House, and entered by a side-door at the bar. Thus much has been done towards the completion of the accommodation of the Peers within the Palace. The House of Commons, more fortunate than the Upper House, has long ceased to have to be content with temporary accommodation; and nothing worthy of remark has been done in their House and its approaches.

Turning to the consideration of the mutations which have occurred among the chartered occupants of the Palace at Westminster it will be found that each branch of the Peerage has undergone changes by deaths amongst its members.

Since July last, of the Peers of England, Ireland, and Scotland, there have died one Duke, one Marquis, seven Earls, three Viscounts, one Bishop (two also have retired), and six Barons. The Duke of Rutland is the most recent death. He is succeeded by his eldest son, the Marquis of Granby, M.P. for South Leicestershire. The Marquis of Queensberry, a Scotch Peer, has died, and has been succeeded by his eldest son, Lord Drumlanrig, late M.P. for Dumfriesshire. The premier Earldom of England has become extinct by the decease of the youthful Earl of Shrewsbury, without issue. This places the Earl of Derby at the head of the list of his order. The Earl of Bandon's death has taken Lord Bernard from the House of Commons; and a vacancy was also created among the representative Peers for Ireland, which has been filled up by the election of the Earl of Belmore. The Earl of Cork has been succeeded on his decease by Viscount Dungarvan, formerly member for Fome. The Earls of Digby and Scarborough have made way for their heirs-apparent; and the Earl of Listowel of the Peerage of Ireland, but who was not a member of the House of Peers has also passed away. The deaths amongst the Viscounts include that of Lord Hardinge, so well known as a gallant soldier, and who held the post of Commander-in-Chief until within a short time of his decease. He is succeeded by his eldest son, Viscount Maynard and Viscount Hawarden have also died during the recess: the latter was a representative Peer for Ireland, and his place has been supplied by the election of Viscount De Vesci. The Bishopric of Gloucester and Bristol having become vacant by the death of Dr. Monk, the see was conferred on Dr. Charles Baring, who will take his seat as junior

Bishop on the meeting of Parliament. The retirement of the Bishop of London has caused the appointment of Dr. Tait, late Dean of Carlisle, to the metropolitan see. As the Bishopric of London entitles the holder of it at once to a seat in the House of Lords, Dr. Tait will take his place as a Peer of Parliament on the 3rd of next month. The translation of Dr. Longley to the Bishopric of Durham left vacant the diocese of Ripon. This has been conferred on the Rev. Robert Bickersteth, Rector of St. Giles's-in-the-Fields. Dr. Longley would have been a permanent member of the House of Lords even if he had been appointed to any other Bishopric than that of Durham, which of itself entitles the holder of the see to the dignity of a Peer; but Dr. Bickersteth will not be entitled to a summons to the Upper House until the next vacancy on the right reverend bench. The Barons who have paid the debt of nature are Lord Bagot, Lord Boston, Lord Carew, Lord De Freyne, Lord Scarsdale, and Lord Milford—better known as Sir Richard Bulkeley Phillips, and who was long in the House of Commons as Member for Haverford-west. Lord Milford having died without issue, his recently-created peerage has become extinct. Sir E. Lyons and Mr. Strutt will take their seats this Session as Lord Lyons and Lord Belper. This completes the roll of changes in the constitution of the Upper House.

In the House of Commons there have been numerous changes. Several new members will take their seats at the commencement of the Session; while a number of new writs will be moved for, owing to resignations and appointments to office under the Crown. Mr. Paget was elected, during the recess, Member for Nottingham, a new writ having been moved for an election for that borough on the day Parliament was prorogued; a vacancy having occurred in the representation in consequence of Mr. Strutt having been elevated to the Peerage. Viscount Castlerosse having accepted the office of Comptroller of her Majesty's Household, a new writ was moved for a day or two before the vacation, for the election of a member for the county of Kerry, and his Lordship was re-elected without opposition. Since the prorogation of Parliament Lord Henniker has been elected member for the eastern division of the county of Suffolk, in the room of Sir Edward Gooch, Bart., deceased. Mr. Baillie Cochrane, who formerly represented Bridport, and who was a somewhat prominent member of that now extinct section of politicians which designated itself as "Young England," has been elected without opposition for the county of Lanark, in the place of Mr. William Lockhart, who died a few weeks since. Lord Castlerosse, Lord Henniker, Mr. Paget, and Mr. Baillie Cochrane will therefore be entitled to take their seats on the first day of the Session. On that day new writs will be moved for elections in various constituencies. The accession of Lord Bernard to the Earldom of Bandon makes a vacancy for the Irish borough of Bandon Bridge. His Lordship, during the time that Sir Robert Peel was in office, was considered to be one of that Minister's "rising young men," and often spoke in the discussions of that period. Since 1846 he has scarcely at all appeared in the character of a debater in the House. The advancement of Sir Alexander Cockburn to the Chief Justiceship of the Common Pleas renders a new writ necessary for the borough of Southampton; while Sir Richard Bethell's acceptance of the office of Attorney-General, and Mr. J. Stuart Wortley's appointment to that of Solicitor-General, cause temporary vacancies at Aylesbury and Butehead respectively. There is little doubt of the re-election of both the law-officers of the Crown. Mr. William Biggs, member for Newport, Isle of Wight, in consequence of the necessity of attending to his private affairs, resigns his seat. Mr. Biggs was attached to that party in Parliament which is Liberal of the extreme cast. On the few occasions on which he has addressed the House during his membership his speeches were characterised by an eccentric boldness which generally gave rise to some amusement. The appointment of Mr. W. H. Watson to a Barony of the Exchequer makes a vacancy in the representation of the borough of Hull. A new writ has already been issued for the Irish borough of Downpatrick, the representation of which has been voided by the accession to the Peerage of the Hon. Charles Hardinge, on the death of his father. The decease of Sir Edward Filmer, for many years member for West Kent, will have to be supplied immediately after the meeting of Parliament. The Marquis of Granby vacates North Leicestershire on becoming Duke of Rutland; and it is stated that his brother, Lord John Manners, will contest that division of his native county, and if he is successful he will of necessity retire from the representation of the borough of Colchester. Lord Drumlanrig having acceded to the Scottish Marquisate of Queensberry without becoming a Peer of Parliament, it appeared probable that a question would be raised as to the eligibility of a Scotch Peer to sit in the House of Commons. His Lordship, however, has disposed of the matter by announcing his intention of resigning his seat; and there will, therefore, be a new election for the county of Dumfries. Mr. John O'Connell, having subsided from an indignant patriot into a simple placeholder as Clerk of the Hanaper in Ireland, necessarily places his seat for Clonmel at the disposal of the constituency, and a new writ will be required to be moved for before the election can take place. Mr. Peter Rolt, the Conservative member for Greenwich, having taken on himself the bulk of the business of Mr. C. J. Mare, the once-eminent shipbuilder, has also taken on him certain partly-executed Government contracts, which circumstance implies the necessity of his resigning his seat, and his retirement from the House of Commons will be announced on the first day of the Session in the usual manner. The decease of a most active, useful, and respected member of the House of Commons, Mr. Brotherton, causes a vacancy in the representation of Salford. Few members of the House—notwithstanding his simple and unassuming demeanour—will be more missed, both by the conductors of its business and those who were merely observers of its proceedings. It is supposed that recent mercantile occurrences in connection with the Royal British Bank will lead Mr. Humphrey Brown, member for Tewkesbury, to accept the Chiltern Hundreds, and so to return his trust into the hands of his constituency; and there is every probability that some action will be taken in the case of Mr. James Sadleir which will result in the issue of a new writ for the county of Tipperary.

From the above statement it will be seen that a little time must elapse before the Legislature will resume its normal condition, which has been to a great extent disturbed in various ways in a space of time which, counted even by weeks, is but brief. Notwithstanding many rumours to the contrary it appears that her Majesty's Ministers will meet Parliament constituted as they were when the Legislature was dismissed from its labours last year. Anticipation with regard to the measures and discussions which will occupy the Parliament in the ensuing Session is unusually meagre. There will no doubt be debates—rather *ex post facto* in their nature—on our foreign policy in Europe; while the state of affairs in the East, as regards both Persia and China, will certainly be brought under consideration at an early day. The Income-tax, as it now exists, will, without doubt, be impeached; Church-rates will be, it is said, positively again made the subject of attack; the Corporation of the City of London will have to undergo a process of reform; the Ecclesiastical Courts, and the Law of Marriage and Divorce, it is understood, will be dealt with by a measure which is the result of a compromise of all the promoters of bills on this head; other Law Reforms, it is stated, are to be brought into the legislative crucible; a measure for the extension of national education is to be introduced by Sir John Pakington and Mr. Cobden—a compromise having also been effected between several independent and somewhat diverse holders of opinions on this important question. Besides all this there are a dozen or two of minor bills which the Government had to postpone last year. It is supposed that the attack on the monopoly of certain large towns on the coast, under the title of Local Dues, will be renewed. Of systematic and organised party movements, or an avowed struggle for power and place, at present, one hears nothing. The only indication of any such tactics, is to be found in a report that Mr. Disraeli has avowed his intention of making Sir Robert Peel's lecture on Russia the subject of a vigorous personal attack on the honourable Baronet himself; and on the Government that has not taken any public step to correct the erratic tendencies of one of its insubordinate members.

Under comparatively calm and unexcited circumstances the Session of 1857 will commence; who shall say that there are not lurking beneath this quietude, which is almost ominous, the elements of many a hot contest, and the seeds of many a change—ministerial, political, and social?

EPITOME OF NEWS—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

Lord John Russell, M.P., arrived in town on Tuesday evening from Florence, in order to attend to his Parliamentary duties.

Viscount Palmerston is, we are glad to say, recovered from his recent attack of gout.

The health of the Queen of Spain is rapidly improving. Her Majesty is going to Andalusia, whither Narvaez will accompany her.

Count Walewski gave a ball last Monday night, at which Ferouk Khan and all the foreign Ministers in Paris, with the exception of Lord Cowley, were present.

The Earl of Harewood met with a severe accident while hunting on Saturday last. His Lordship is progressing favourably, though not yet considered out of danger. The noble Earl has undergone the operation of trepanning.

The King of Prussia and the Princes had a shooting party on the Schöneberg plain on the 24th inst., and bagged not less than 250 hares in three hours. The plain, richly cultivated, is within a mile of the city gates, but, notwithstanding this, is most strictly preserved.

MM. de Pourtales and Coriolis, late prisoners at Neufchâtel, have arrived at Marseilles.

His Grace the Archbishop of Dublin, the Bishop of Ferns and Ossory, the Bishop of Down, and the Bishop of Cloyne and Cork, will be the representative Bishops in the coming session of Parliament.

Sir James Hudson, British Minister; the Duke of Grammont, French Minister; M. Brassier de Saint Simon, Prussian Minister; M. Lannoy, Belgian Minister; the Chevalier Souza, Spanish Chargé d'Affaires; and several other members of the diplomatic body accredited to the Court of Piedmont, have gone to Nice.

Her Serene Highness the Princess Hohenlohe and her daughter arrived at the Lord Warden Hotel, Dover, from Calais, on Tuesday afternoon, at half-past five o'clock.

Monseigneur Marlot, Cardinal Archbishop of Tours, has been appointed Archbishop of Paris by an Imperial decree, dated 24th January.

The Earl of Ellesmere continues, we regret to state, in very indigent health, and his condition still occasions the anxiety of the members of his family.

Mr. Sumner has been re-elected to the United States' Senate on the part of one branch of the Legislature of Massachusetts, by a nearly unanimous vote. The other branch will be sure to concur.

On Tuesday evening the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress entertained at dinner the members of the Court of Aldermen and their ladies, and a number of private friends.

The higher classes of society at St. Petersburg have their attention taken up with another marriage, which excites no less attention than that of the Count de Morny with Mlle. de Tronetzkoï—that of the Duke d'Ossuna with Mlle. de Straudmann, Lady of Honour to the Empress.

The Marquis of Abercorn has taken Brockett Hall, Herts, of Viscountess Palmerston for a term. The noble Marquis takes possession on the 1st of February.

The Emperor of Austria has instituted ten free admissions to the Institute of Canossa at Venice for deaf and dumb young girls. The annual expense, amounting to £120, is to be equally divided between the State and the Privy Purse.

The Archdeacon, Rural Deans, and parochial clergy of the city of Oxford had the honour of dining with the Lord Bishop of the diocese, at Cuddesdon Palace, on Tuesday.

The King of Bavaria has given 30,000 florins out of his private treasury for the promotion of literary and scientific purposes. Of this amount Dr. Moritz Wagner and Herr Gemminger will receive 12,000 florins, in order to join the expedition round the world on board the Austrian frigate *Novara*.

Messrs. Whittaker and Co. announce that "they are no longer the London agents for the sale of Lady Lytton's novel, 'Very Successful.'"

The Belgian Government has presented to the Chamber of Representatives a demand for a supplementary credit of 770,631 fr. for the national fêtes celebrated on the occasion of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the accession of King Leopold. The total official expense of the fêtes in question is said to have amounted to 1,070,638 fr.

The Rev. W. H. Milman, Librarian of Sion College, and son of the Dean of St. Paul's, will be Archdeacon Hale's successor at St. Giles's, Cripplegate.

Lord Montague and the Commissioners on Decimal Coinage have resumed their meetings in Manchester-buildings.

The Count of Paris arrived at Cagliari, on the 19th inst., from Genoa.

Last Saturday evening M. Kossuth addressed an assemblage of about three thousand persons, in the Free-trade Hall, Manchester, on the present state of Continental Europe.

The military tribunal which condemned Baron de Bentivegna to death has lately been engaged with the trial of Dr. Garnierio de Cefalu, on whom it has also pronounced the capital sentence.

Colonel Biddulph, Master of her Majesty's Household, having lately married the Hon. Miss Seymour, Maid of Honour to the Queen, the ladies and gentlemen of the Court have taken the opportunity to testify their appreciation of the bride and bridegroom by the presentation of a beautiful tea-service.

The evacuation of Greece by the French troops is said to be decided upon. It will probably take place in the spring.

The Pope has given 55,000 fr. from his privy purse to afford employment on the high roads to the indigent.

An amateur theatrical performance is to take place at the St. James's Theatre early in February, for the benefit of those brave men the Broadstairs boatmen.

The Duchess of Parma is about to enrol 900 young men for her army, to make up for the departure of the Austrian troops. The Parmese army is ultimately to be raised to 1200 men.

The *New York Times* complains that one of the eccentricities which have sprung from the rapid intercourse that has been established between Europe and the United States is the fashion of eating English mutton. No dinner in New York is now considered perfect without a saddle or a leg of English mutton, brought by the last steamer.

The conferences on the Sound dues have been suspended, owing to M. Tengoborski, the Russian commissioner, having been obliged to leave suddenly for Paris, where his wife had fallen ill.

A colossal equestrian statue of the late Lord Hardinge has been executed for Calcutta.

A Prussian artist, named Catel, who has just died at Rome, has bequeathed all his fortune, rather more than £18,000 in English, for an asylum for distressed German artists at Rome, and for other purposes useful to artists.

M. Bunsen is engaged at Heidelberg upon his new translation of the Bible for the people, with a complete commentary, two volumes of which will appear this year.

A respectable Liverpool firm has entered into arrangements to run a steamer between Liverpool and Cardiff early in February.

The *Revue de Paris*—to which MM. Michelet, Jules Simon, Henri Martin, &c., and other eminent Republicans, are contributors—is suspended for a month. It has been prosecuted for having published, in recent numbers, a novel objectionable on the score of morality.

Letters from Melbourne state that the last year's produce of gold amounted to 129 tons. Such has been the increase of consumption in the colony that the demand of Australia has reduced the amount of sugar heretofore sent to Great Britain from Mauritius two-thirds.

The Vienna post direction publishes a list of thirty-eight journals forbidden circulation in the Austrian dominions. The best known of these are the *Berlin National*, the *London Daily News*, the *Westminster Review*, the *Nord of Brussels*, the *Swiss Bund*, and *L'Opinion*. Of the remainder, fourteen are Italian, and twelve German or Swiss, with three or four in French.

During the last few days three women have been found dead in the snow within the county of Forfar.

The Library Committee of Congress intend to invite Horace Vernet to paint a battle piece for the new portion of the Capitol. M. Vernet is expected in the United States in the spring.

The performance of Schiller's drama of "William Tell" has been prohibited, for the present, at the Theatre Royal at Munich.

Preparations are now being made upon a piece of land on the western boundary of Skircoat Moor, near Halifax, for the erection of a new Independent College.

The Government of Hesse having withdrawn its objections to the monetary convention, it will speedily be ratified by the German States.

CHESSE.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

CPANMOORE.—In Enigma 1019 the Black Pawns should stand at K Kt 3rd and A B 4th. The Solution runs—

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1. B to K B 4th	P moves	3. R to K R 3rd	P takes P
2. Kt to K B 3rd	P takes B	4. K to K R 4th—Mate.	

J. RUSSELL, RUSTIC, HUTTI, CRANMORE.—Your Solution of Problem 672, though inferior to the Author's, leads to the same result.

ANALYSIS.—Very smart and piquant. Why withhold the names of the combatants? They both show promise.

DECIES.—We are not yet aware if any measures have been determined on to organise a Chess Meeting at Manchester in the Spring, but hope so favourable an opportunity will not be lost.

SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 673. by Hagbiensis, Antony, M.D., Philo-Chess, Mercator, Henry, The Northern Girl, A. Gernian, Bombardier, Rex, Czar, Omicron, Bannockburn, Wellstead, A. Lion, D. D., R. T. Green, Cadet, G. P. W., Julius Manning, are correct.

SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 674. by Hagbiensis, Somerton, Willy, F. N., S. H., O'Toole, Gregory, Beta, A. Crimian, Riffman, Cadet, Southurst Student, L. B., W. Leighton, Prais, Omega, Lulus, Eocentric, Hercules, Daddipo, Young Hat, Quorist, Looker-on (Edipus, Borneo, Peregrine Transpennine, L. S. D., A. Clitzen, Hector, G. W., F. R., F. R. Crampton, Rustic, J. Russell, Royal Artillery, Woolwich; A Working Man, T. H., Lackland, A. Rhymer, Semper Idem, A. Prisoner, X. X., Fideleto, F. M., Oxoniensis, Gallus, Medmontese, T. H. C., Cantab, Clericus, G., Balliol College, Oxford; Civis, Peter, Tomboy, Wellborn, A. Felsener, are correct.

SOLUTIONS OF EXIGMAS. by Ernest, W. P. G., P. R. Crampton, R. M., I. G. W., J. Russell, Pertinax, Lupus, A. Young Lady, Felix, Philip, Eudocia, A. Printer, Biceps, A. Harrow Boy, Edipus, A. Clerk, T. F. S., G. W., Henricus, Antony, Pedagogus, Whitehead, X. Y. Z., Alpha, Czarina, A. Frenchwoman, are correct. All others are wrong.

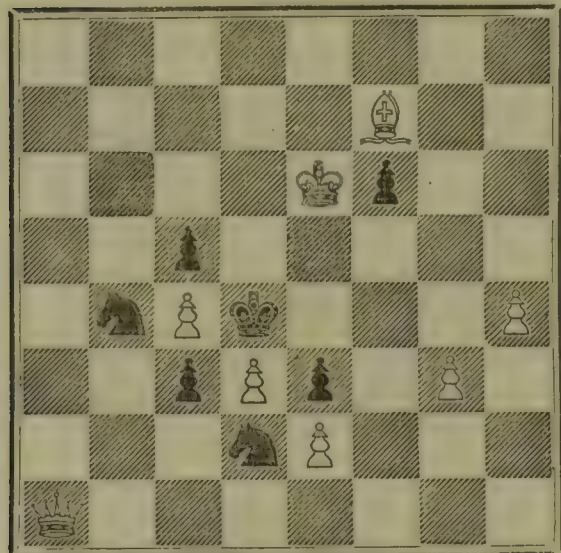
SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 675.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1. B to Q B 5th	P to Q Kt 5th	3. R to Q R 8th	K to Kt 3rd
	(a) or	(ch)	
2. R to Q 8th	P takes B	4. Kt mates.	
(a) 1.	P takes B	3. Kt to Q B 2nd (ch)	K moves
2. R to R 3rd (ch)	K to Kt 5th	4. B mates	

PROBLEM No. 676.

By E. B. C., of Hoboken.

BLACK.



WHITE.
White to play, and mate in four moves.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

In the slight interval of suspense between the publication of the great handicap weights and the acceptances little has been done at Tattersall's. Mincepie has, however, gone back for the Chester Cup (where One Act, 6st. 10lb., and Rogerthorpe, 7st., are capably in); and Blink Bonny shows symptoms of shakiness for the Derby. Independent of the temper, which we hinted at a few weeks since, it is said that she has not grown at all. These may be mere tricky rumours, but we must confess we are not among her very warm admirers. People are generally asking what this horse "Darkie" is who figures at 9st. in the Chester Cup, and it is generally thought he is some great, or rather little, unknown, who is certain to accept, and thus prevent the weights being raised. The Jockey Club, we are glad to see, have not gone below 4st. 12lb. in any one of the handicaps which have issued from their headquarters, and they deserve every credit for having taken the initiative in this matter. We trust that Yorkshire and Mr. Richard Johnson will not be slow to follow their example, and leave Chester and Liverpool in their light-weight glories, such as they are. The weights for the Liverpool Steeplechase are an absolute burlesque, the highest being only 11st. 2lb., and the lowest 8st. 10lb. In fact, under Mr. Topham's régime this once great national struggle, which was quite an event in the sporting year, is reduced to a mere scurry of miserable ex-racers, at weights so low that even the regular steeplechase riders can hardly get a mount.

Janus has been sold by private contract, but Weatherbit was bought in last Monday almost without a bid. Vandal, Vindex, John Cosser, and Fly-by-Night (whose Ascot break down precluded all hope of his racing again) will be sold on Monday at Tattersall's, along with seven of Captain White's. On the 16th the West Kent hounds (fifty couples) will also be disposed of, and the South Union harriers are said to be in the market. Harkaway has been purchased by Mr. Robertson, for 200 guineas, and has gone to Ladykirk; the Little Known, one of the best hunter sires we have, has been let to Earl Fitzwilliam for the season; while for the first time, that we remember, old Touchstone has been advertised, and only at thirty sovs.

The coursing fixtures for next week stand thus—Ombersley, on Tuesday; Whitehaven and Killady Hill, on Tuesday and Wednesday; Worthenbury (Flintshire), on Thursday; Baldock (club and open), on Wednesday, &c.; Wexford and Tattershall (open), on Thursday; and Ridgway (Lytham), on Thursday and Friday. Mr. Nightingale has been elected judge of the Waterloo Champion. Athulpa is so uniformly victorious over this grand that we should not be surprised to see him as lucky in that parliament of cracks as Cerito, the heroine of the same kennel, was wont to be. Lord Setton seems to be treading in his father's steps, but his dogs have a remarkable knack of running second. At Ashdown and Altcar, this month alone, he has held that position with four different dogs, in four good stakes.

TATTERSALL'S.—THURSDAY EVENING.

CHESTER CUP.—25 to 1 agst Rogerthorpe (off), 30 to 1 agst Schiedam (off), 33 to 1 agst Vengeance (off), 100 to 1 agst Lady Tatton, 100 to 1 agst Alice.
TWO THOUSAND GUINEAS.—9 to 2 agst Schiedam (off), 7 to 1 agst Sydney (t.), 10 to 1 agst Lambourn (t.).
DERBY.—20 to 1 agst M.D. (t.), 20 to 1 agst Zuyder Zee, 40 to 1 agst Kent, 60 to 1 agst Sweet William.

THE INCOME-TAX.—Public meetings were held in Marylebone and Lambeth on Wednesday evening, at which resolutions were passed in condemnation of the present Income-tax.

MR. J. C. BAYLEY, who was lately Colonial Secretary at the Mauritius, has been appointed to the Government of the Bahamas, in succession to Sir Alexander Bannerman.

FRIGHTFUL TRAGEDY IN AUSTRALIA.—Melbourne papers just received give the details of a most painful incident which has occurred in her Majesty's 40th Regiment. The circumstances are briefly these:—Shortly after the usual half-yearly inspection of the troops at the Prince's-bridge barracks, Ensign Pennfather rushed out of his room with a six-barrelled revolver, and, meeting Ensign Keith, he fired at him. The ball passed through the Ensign's cheek and came out at the back of the neck. Pennfather then ran to where Dr. McCauley was sitting, and, placing the pistol at the doctor's mouth, he fired, the ball passing out at the back of his neck. Ensign Lucas ran forward to wrest the pistol from him, when Pennfather shot him in the jaw. The wretched man then placed the pistol to his own head and fired, the ball entering his right temple: death speedily followed. Dr. McCauley is also dead. Ensigns Lucas and Keith are expected to recover. At the inquest held on the bodies of Dr. McCauley and Ensign Pennfather the evidence was conclusive as to the insanity of the poor young man.

NAVAL AND MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

THE Admiralty have recently had under consideration plans and estimates for the permanent enlargement and improvement of the dockyard at Pembroke. At their last visit the Lords of the Admiralty closely inspected the shore from the eastern Martello Tower to Hobbs-point, with the view of ascertaining how far this space of ground could be made available for the dockyard enlargement. A portion of the additional work will be included in the Navy estimates for the present year. The dry dock is to be extended more considerably than at first intended. It is to have an additional length of nearly 200 feet, which is to be carried out both inland and seaward. The building-slips are receiving an extra length of eighty feet towards the sea, and new ones are being erected. The enlargement of the roofs is also taking place. The present area of the dockyard is about ninety acres; yet, as new buildings are being rapidly added, this large acreage will soon be insufficient for the dockyard requirements.

EVERY exertion has been made to discover the two men, attired in the uniform of the Royal Artillery, who recently robbed Colonel Gordon, but hitherto without effect. In justice to the corps, it may be observed that it is by no means certain that the fellows who attacked Colonel Gordon were artillerymen. It is the opinion of several acute detective police-officers that the contrary was the case; and it is well known that old uniforms are publicly sold, and therefore easily procurable in Woolwich by those who might find it convenient to assume such a disguise.

THE Duke of Cambridge having consented that a number of the invalid soldiers at the Military Hospital, Chatham, should be sent to Bath for the purpose of undergoing a course of medical treatment in that city, arrangements have been made for stationing invalid troops in that neighbourhood.

DIRECTIONS have been received at Chatham by Captain Allan, in charge of the stores which were brought home from Kertch by the Turkish Engineer Corps, and deposited on the gun-wharf, to deliver the entire stores, with the exception of the large pontoons, to the Royal Engineers, with the view of their being placed in the stores belonging to that corps. On opening the casks and boxes in which the harness, tools, and other articles were deposited in the summer, it was found that they had not suffered in any degree from the effects of their long exposure in their partly unprotected state, care having been taken to oil and cleanse from damp every article separately before it was deposited in the place assigned to it. The pontoons will remain on the gun-wharf, owing to there being no place large enough to receive them.

NEVER LOOK A GIFT HORSE IN THE MOUTH.—Lieutenant d'Alvensleben went some months ago to Trieste, and thence to Alexandria, to receive four Arabian horses which the Viceroy of Egypt intended as a present for the King of Prussia. The return of this officer, which was to have taken place last month, has been delayed by a singular circumstance. When he saw the horses, he found them of so little value that he did not think it his duty to undertake the expense of their conveyance to Prussia. It appears that they had been exchanged on their way from the interior, for it could not be supposed that the Viceroy would send to the King horses which were old and blind.—*Borsenhalle.*

MONETARY TRANSACTIONS OF THE WEEK.

(From our City Correspondent.)

ALL National Securities have been dull and drooping in price during the present week. Some large sales of money stock having been effected, and over £400,000 in gold having been withdrawn from the Bank of England, chiefly to purchase silver on the Continent, the Bull operators have taken alarm; and the difference between the value of Consols for Money and Time is now only one-eighth per cent. The warlike news from India and China, although one despatch states that our differences with Persia have been adjusted, has been productive of much excitement in the silver market, and prices are expected to go higher, owing to intelligence having come to hand that money was comparatively scarce in India, and that the various banks had further advanced the rates of discount.

The Money Market here has been very active, and numerous applications have been made for assistance at the Bank of England, as well as to the private bankers—the latter of whom are charging quite six per cent for the best short paper. At present there is every indication of higher rates. Gold is leaving us rapidly; the stock in the Bank of France is declining daily; and there are very poor prospects of large remittances coming to hand from any quarter for some time. Gold is much dearer in the other great money markets of the world than in London: for instance, it is 5-10ths per cent higher in Paris; 6-10ths dearer at Hamburg; and the exchange at New York shows no profit on shipments. There is only one vessel on passage from Australia known to have gold on board. As the Bank of France is still a buyer of gold, no doubt the whole of the supply by that conveyance will be taken for the Continent.

The imports of gold and silver this week have been under £200,000. The arrival from New York was on French account. We may, therefore, anticipate a gradual decline in the stock in the Bank of England, and with it a hardening Money Market.

The annexed return exhibits the total note circulation of the United Kingdom during the four weeks ending on the 20th ult.:

Bank of England	..	..	..	..	£14,973,925
Private banks	..	..	..	..	3,634,721
Joint-stock banks	..	..	..	..	3,044,895
Scotland	..	..	..	..	4,319,383
Ireland	..	..	..	..	7,307,393
Total	..	..	..	..	£37,275,237

Compared with the previous month, the decrease in the circulation is thus £1,527,103.

From Hamburg, we learn that the rate of discount has fallen to 5½ per cent.

On Monday Home Stocks were very flat and drooping. The Account dealings were unusually small.—The Three per Cents Reduced were 93½; Three per Cent Consols, 93½; New Three per Cents, 94½; Consols, for Account, 93½; Long Annuities, 1860, 2½; Ditto, 1865, 18-16; Exchequer Bills, 1s. dis. to 3s. prem. Very limited transactions were reported on the following day, and prices were rather easier:—Bank Stock was 217½; the Reduced Three per Cents were done at 94 down to 93½; Consols, for Money, 93½; Ditto, for Account, 93½; New Three per Cents, 94½; New Two-and-a-Half per Cents, 94½; 7½ to 78; India Bonds, 2s. dis.; Exchequer Bills, 1s. to 2s. dis.; Exchequer Bonds, 94½. Wednesday's transactions were trifling, as follows:—Bank Stock, 216 to 217½; Three per Cents Reduced, 93½; Three per Cent Consols, 93½; Ditto, for Account, 93½; New Three per Cents, 93½; New Two-and-a-Half per Cents, 76½; Long Annuities, 1860, 2½; Ditto, 2-11-16; Ditto, 1865, 18-16-18; Bank Stock, 219; India Bonds, 2s. prem. to 2s. dis.; Exchequer Bills, 1s. prem. to 3s. dis.; Ditto, Bonds, 94½. On Thursday the Directors of the Bank of England made no change in the rate of discount; yet the Consol Market was exceedingly heavy, at further depressed rates:—The Three per Cents, for Money, were 93½; and for Account, 93½; for the March settlement the quotations were 93½; the New Three per Cents marked 93½; the Reduced, 31½; Long Annuities, 1865, 18-1-16; Bank Stock, 216 to 217½; Exchequer Bills, 5s. to 1s. dis.; India Bonds, 2s. dis.

No new feature has presented itself in the Foreign Market. The business passing has been limited, but without leading to any material change in the quotations:—Brazilian Five per Cents have realised 102; Ditto, Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 9; Russian Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 74½; Portuguese Three per Cents, 44½; Russian Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 90½; Russian Five per Cents, 108½; Spanish Three per Cents, 40½; Spanish New Deferred, 20½; Spanish Committee's Certificate of Coupon, 5½ per cent; Turkish Six per Cents, 94½; Turkish Four per Cents, 104½; Venezuela Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 30½; Dutch Two-and-a-Half per Cents, 61½; Danish Five per Cents, 101; Mexican Three per Cents, 21½; Sardinian Five per Cents, 90½; Chilean Six per Cents, 101½; Dutch Four per Cents, 98½.

Owing to the unusually favourable reports presented at the half-yearly meetings, and the steady increase in the dividends, all Joint-Stock Bank Shares have ruled very firm, and the quotations have had an upward tendency:—Bank of Australia have marked 91½; Bank of Egypt, 184; Colonial, 25½ ex div.; English, Scottish, and Australian Chartered, 17½; General Bank of Switzerland, 33; London Chartered of Australia, 17½; Ditto, New, 17½; London Joint-Stock, 33½; London and Westminster, 69; National Provincial of England, New, 10; Oriental, 37½; Ottoman, 14½; Provincial of Ireland, 59½; Union of Australia, 63½; Union of London, 26½ ex div.; Unity Mutual, 40; and Western of London, 48½.

The transactions in Miscellaneous Securities have been comparatively small. Prices, however, have been tolerably steady:—London Docks, 100 ex div.; East and West India, 122; St. Katharine, 91; Southampton, 48½; Victoria, 19½; Australian Agricultural, 23; Canada Company's Bonds, 131; Canada Government Six per Cents, 110½; Crystal Palace, 24; Electric Telegraph, 92; General Screw Steam Shipping Company, 63; London Discount, 4½; London General Omnibus, 37½; New South Wales Debentures, 92½; North of Europe Steam, 14½; Peel River Land and Mineral, 25; Pansular and Oriental Steam, 12½; Ditto, New, 14½; Scottish Australian Investment, 51½; Victoria Government Six per Cents, 100; Berlin Waterworks, 65; East London, 112 ex div.; Grand Junction, 75; Kent, 81; Lambeth, 45; West Middlesex, 94½ ex div.; Ditto, 2½ prem. ex div.; Stafford and Worcester Canal, 10; Regent's, 15½; Warwick and Birmingham, 25.

All Railway Shares have been very flat, and prices have given way. The "calls" for February, so far as they have been yet announced, are £277,300. The following are the official closing money quotations on Thursday:—

ORDINARY SHARES AND STOCKS.—Eastern Counties, 9; East London, 94½; Edinburgh, Perth, and Dundee, 34; Great Northern, A Stock, 79; Great Western, 65½; London and Brighton, 112½; London and North-

Western, 106½; London and South-Western, 107; Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire, 33½; Midland, 82½; Norfolk, 53; North-Eastern (Berwick), 83½; Ditto, G. N. E. Purchase, 3 discount; Ditto, York, 60; Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton, 27½; Shropshire Union, 49½.

PREFERENCE SHARES.—Great Northern Four-and-a-Half per Cent, 104; Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire, 53½; North British, 103½; South-Eastern, 23½.

BRITISH POSSESSIONS.—East Indian, 104½; Grand Trunk of Canada, 49; Ditto, Six per Cent Debentures, 82½; Great Indian Peninsula, New, 44½; Great Western of Canada, 24½.

FOREIGN.—Eastern of France, 32½; Great Luxembourg, 52½; Lombardo-Venetian, 11½; Namur and Liège, 19; Paris and Lyons, 33½; Sambre and Meuse, 18.

The Mining Share Market has been tolerably steady. On Thursday Alfred Consols were done at 21½; Great Wheel Alfred, 10½; North Wheel Bassett, 35½; United Mines, 210; St. John del Rey, 17; and Cobbe Copper, 58½.

THE MARKETS.

CORN-EXCHANGE. January 26.—Only moderate supplies of English wheat. In damp conditions, and with a decline in the quotations, the demand for all kinds was in a most depressed state, and a decline in the quotations, compared with those of the 15th, of from 2s. to 4s. per quarter. Foreign wheat—the show of which was extensive—met a dull inquiry, at quite 2s. per quarter less money. We were fairly supplied with both English and foreign barley, in which very little was passing, at 2s. per quarter decline. Malt sold heavily, at barely stationary prices. There was only a limited inquiry for oats, the value of which had a downward tendency. Both beans and peas were dull, and quite 1s. per quarter lower. Town-made flour was unaltered; but country marks and American qualities gave way 2s. per sack and barrel respectively.

January 25.—Scarcely any change took place in the prices of produce to-day. The business done was confined to immediate wants.

English.—Wheat, Essex and Kent, 4s. to 6s.; ditto, white, 5s. to 6s.; Norfolk and Suffolk, red, 4s. to 6s.; rye, 3s. to 4s.; grinding barley, 3s. to 3s. 6d.; distilling ditto, 3s. to 3s. 6d.; malt, 3s. to 4s.; Lincoln and Norfolk malt, 6s. to 7s.; brown ditto, 6s. to 6s. 6d.; Kingston and Ware, 6s. to 7s.; Chevalier, 7s. to 7s. 6d.; Yorkshire and Lincolnshire feed oats, 2s. to 2s. 6d.; potato ditto, 2s. to 2s. 6d.; Youghal and Cork, black, 2s. to 2s. 6d.; ditto, white, 2s. to 2s. 6d.; tick beans, 3s. to 3s. 6d.; grey peas, 3s. to 3s. 6d.; rapeseed, 4s. to 4s. 6d.; white, 3s. to 4s.; bolson, 3s. to 3s. 6d.; per quarter. Town-made flour, 4s. to 6s.; Suffolk, 3s. to 4s.; Stockton and Yorkshire, 10s. to 11s. per 280 lb. American flour, 2s. to 3s. per barrel.

Seeds.—Linnseed is in good request, and rather dearer. Clover, trefoil, and canary, command extreme prices. Other seeds are unaltered. Linseed, English crushing, 6s. to 7s.; Mediterranean and Odessa, 6s. to 6s. 6d.; hempseed, 4s. to 4s. 6d. per quarter. Coriander, 2s. to 2s. 6d. per cwt. Brown mustard seed, 2s. to 2s. 6d.; ditto, white, 2s. to 2s. 6d.; favae, 5s. to 6s. 6d. per bushel. English rapeseed, 4s. to 4s. 6d. per quarter. Linnseed cakes, English, 110s. to 111s.; ditto, foreign, 110s. to 111s.; rape cakes, 110s. to 111s. per ton. Canary, 6s. to 7s. per quarter.

Grain.—The prices of wheat in the metropolis are from 8d. to 9½; of household ditto, 7½; to 8½; per lb. half.

Imperial Weekly Averages.—Wheat, 5s. 10d.; barley, 4s. 1d.; oats, 2s. 8d.; rye, 3s. 8d.; beans, 4s. 8d.; peas, 3s. 6d.

The Six Weeks' Averages.—Wheat, 5s. 2d.; barley, 4s. 9d.; oats, 2s. 1d.; rye, 3s. 3d.; beans, 4s. 6d.; peas, 4s. 1d.

English Grain Sold Week.—Wheat, 108,532; barley, 55,676; oats, 13,406; rye, 210; beans, 66,571; peas, 2130 quarters.

Tea.—The warlike news from China has been productive of considerable excitement in our market, and of an important rise in the quotations. Common sound congou has advanced to 1s. 1½d. per lb. The public sales have gone at a considerable advance.

Sugar.—An extensive business has been passing in nearly all raw qualities, at an advance of from 6d. to fully 1s. per cwt.—West India has realised 5s. 10s. to 5s. 11s.; Mauritius, 4s. to 5s. 6d.; Bengal, 4s. 6d. to 5s.; Madras, 4s. 6d. to 5s.; Madagascar, 4s. to 5s. per cwt. Refined goods have risen 1s. per cwt., present rates being from 6s. 6d. to 6s. 8d. per cwt.

Coffee.—Native qualities have changed hands at 5s. per cwt. All other coffees are quite as dear as last week.

Rice.—Large supplies have been brought to public sale, and the demand has fallen off; prices have, consequently, ruled in favour of buyers.

Provisions.—Irish butter is very dull, and drooping in price. In English and foreign qualities very little is doing, at barely late rates. Bacon is dull, but we have no actual change to notice in its value. Other provisions are heavy.

Tallow.—All kinds are steady, and F.V.C., on the spot, is worth 62s. 3d. per cwt. for present and March delivery. The stock is very limited.

Oils.—Linnseed oil has sold readily, at £10 to £10 10s. per ton on the spot. Olive and rape support last week's prices. Turpentine is inactive, at 4s. to 4s. 6d. per cwt. for spirits.

Spirits.—Very little is doing in rum, yet the late improvement in value is supported. Proof Lecwards, 2s. 7d.; and East India, 2s. 8d. per gallon. Brandy is dull, yet the finest old parcels cannot be purchased under 11s. 4d. per gallon. Malt spirit, proof, 11s. 2d. per gallon.

Hay and Straw.—Meadow hay, £2 10s. to £4 0s.; clover ditto, £3 10s. to £5 0s., and straw, £1 4s. to £1 8s. per load.

Wool.—Wylam, 16s.; Lawson, 16s. 6d.; Riddell, 16s. 9d.; Eden Main, 17s. 6d.; Belmont, 18s.; Hutton, 19s.; Lambton, 19s. 6d.; Montague, 17s. 6d.; South Hutton, 18s. 6d. per ton.

Hops.—About an average business is doing in hops, at last week's prices. Mid and East Kent pockets, £3 5s. to £5 12s.; Weald of Kent, £3 3s. to £1 10s.; Sussex, £3 0s. to £3 10s.; and yearlings, £1 10s. to £3 3s. per cwt.

Wool.—The demand is active, and prices generally are well supported.

Butter.—The supplies are moderate, and the trade is steady, at from 70s. to 13s. per ton.

Butter and Cattle Market.—Most kinds of stock have been in limited supply and moderate request, at last week's quotations.

Beef, from 3s. 4d. to 5s. 0d.; mutton, 4s. 0d. to 5s. 6d.; veal, 4s. 4d. to 6s. 0d.; pork, 3s. 6d. to 5s. 2d. per 8 lb., to sink the offal.

Nevegate and Leadenhall.—The trade generally has ruled steadily, as follows:—Beef, from 3s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; mutton, 3s. 6d. to 4s. 10d.; veal, 4s. 4d. to 5s. 4d., by the carcass.

ROBERT HEBBERT.

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, JAN. 23.

WAR-OFFICE, JAN. 22.

The Queen has been graciously pleased to give orders for the appointment of Major-General R. J. H. Vivian to be an Ordinary Member of the Military Division, and of J. G. S. Leveson, Esq., to be an Ordinary Member of the Civil Division, of the Second Class, or Knights Commanders of the Order of the Bath. Her Majesty has also been graciously pleased to give orders for the appointment of Colonel A. H. Fyfe, and of Lieut.-Colonel W. L. Ingham, to be Ordinary Members, of the Third Class, and of H. W. Gordon, Esq., to be an Ordinary Member of the Civil Division, of the Third Class, or Companions of the said Most Honourable Order.

FOREIGN OFFICE, JAN. 21.

The Queen has been graciously pleased to appoint Lord Napier, now Secretary to her Majesty's Embassy at Constantinople, to be her Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the United States of America.

WAR DEPARTMENT, JAN. 23.

Royal Artillery: Cadets E. W. Sandys, A. May, J. M. Munnell, G. L. Engstrom, C. R. Reeves, M. J. Sexton, W. Scott, to be Lieutenants.

Royal Engineers: Cadets H. D. Crozier, H. S. Palmer, R. Barton, R. O. Jones, V. G. Clayton, H. C. Seddon, to be Lieutenants.

COMMISSION SIGNED BY THE LORD LIEUTENANT OF THE COUNTY OF GLAMORGAN.
The Hon. W. H. W. Quin to be Deputy Lieutenant.

BANKRUPTS.

W. H. DICKINSON, Sheffield, joiner and table-knife manufacturer.—G. BALL, New London, Nottinghamshire, plumber and glazier.—S. TOWAN, Plymouth, carrier.—J. LADD, Liverpool, contractor and builder.—J. MORLEY, Nottingham, and Nottolm, Nottinghamshire, joiner and builder.—E. WHITE, Cushton-court, Old Broad-street, City, stock and share broker.—J. SCHOFIELD, Ashton-under-Lyne, tailor and draper.—J. WALTERS, Northampton, hatter and bootmaker.—T. CANTRELL, River-terrace, York-road, King's-Cross, railway carriage manufacturer.—J. DAVIES, Cardiff, Glamorganshire, late of Wellington, shropshire, builder, stone and timber merchant, brickmaker, and contractor for public works.—G. DEEKS, Pembroke Villas, Westbourne-grove, auctioneer, estate agent, and bill discount.—H. F. JOHNS, Manchester, merchant.

TUESDAY, JAN. 27.

WAR-OFFICE, JAN. 21.

The Queen has been graciously pleased to give orders for the appointment of the Right Hon. the Earl of St. Germans, C.B., to be an Ordinary Member of the Civil Division of the First Class, or Knights Grand Cross, of the most honourable Order of the Bath; and of Colonel his Serene Highness Prince William Augustus Edward of Saxe-Weimar, Grenadier Guards, to be

THE MILTON VASE.

This interesting work of sculpture attracted much admiration at the last exhibition of the Royal Academy. The vase is 4 feet 5 inches in height. The subjects illustrate "Paradise Lost." The panel engraved shows Michael leading Adam and Eve out of Paradise; the fiery sword waving behind them, and the cherubim guarding the place:—

Haste thee, and from the Paradise of God
Drive out the sinful pair.
All terror hide
If patiently thy bidding they obey:
Dismiss them not disconsolate. Book II.

The opposite side shows the overthrow of Satan and his legions:—

Go then, thou mightiest, in thy father's might,
Pursue these sons of darkness, drive them out
From all heaven's bounds into the utter deep.

Book VI.

The handle is supported by masks of Sin and Death, with foliage of the deadly nightshade. Under the lip are masks of Envy, Hatred, Fear, and Despair, with foliage of wild plants. The entire design is of classic character.

The Vase is the joint production of two rising young artists, T. and W. J. Wills, of Harrison-street, Gray's-inn-road. We are glad to see artistic skill applied to works of this class: the present design, if carried out in terra-cotta, would form a grand object for a garden or lawn.

FASHIONS FOR FEBRUARY.

For some time past the changes in fashion—at least, in as far as regards general forms—have not presented any very marked or decided character; novelty has been chiefly limited to matters of detail, or to what may properly be called the ornamentation of dress. Now, however, a revolution, and an important one, is impending—viz., an enlargement of the size of bonnets. Symptoms of this change have, as yet, been perceptible only in the sphere of ultra-Parisian fashion; yet there is little doubt that the year 1857 will witness its consummation. The change in question has, in fact, become indispensable, inasmuch as there seems to be every disposition to increase rather than to diminish the amplitude of skirts or the profusion of flounces. Good taste demands a certain harmony in the different parts of a lady's dress—a harmony of proportion as well as of colour. Now the diminutive bonnet, hanging at the back of the head, in the style in which it has been worn during the last two or three years, is manifestly out of proportion to the mass of silk, lace, and other trimmings comprising a fashionable dress. The necessity of obviating this disproportion suggested the enlargement of sleeves, by the addition of puffs, frills, &c., which give to the arm its required degree of importance in connection with the ample and highly-trimmed jupe.

Flounces of black or white lace are very fashionable for evening dresses, flounces of the same material as the robe being now confined chiefly to morning or out-door costume. Robes with double or triple skirts have a very elegant effect, as they admit of a vast variety of rich and fanciful trimmings.

A style of trimming for which there is just now quite a *furor* in Paris is distinguished by the designation *quilles*. It is employed for dresses of various materials (whether having one or more skirts), and it consists of pieces of silk, satin, velvet, or any other material, broad at the base and tapering to a point at the top, the precise form being accurately expressed by the French term *quille* (skittle). Each *quille* is usually five or six inches broad at the base, and the intervening spaces are about the same width. These *quilles* are disposed longitudinally on the skirts of dresses, frequently extending from the lower edge to nearly the height of the waist. The edges of the *quilles* are trimmed with narrow lace, fringe, or passementerie. Frequently two or three *quilles* are placed at each side of the skirt, and they are connected together by rows of lace, ruffles of narrow ribbon, or with jet trimmings. This sort of trimming may be executed in any material or in any colour. *Quilles* of black velvet, on violet-colour moire, have a beautiful effect, and form a dress suitable for out-door costume.

In the shape of bonnets but little or no change is perceptible. They continue to be very highly trimmed; indeed, so profusely ornamented, that it is frequently difficult to determine of what



THE MILTON VASE.

material the bonnet itself is composed. At the present season rich and somewhat dark hues are, of course, most prevalent. Velvet is rapidly regaining favour as a material for bonnets. For carriage costume a bonnet of blue, brown, or green velvet, trimmed with black lace, chenille, &c., and having on one side a bird of paradise, is extremely elegant. Bonnets of a plainer style, suitable for walking dress, are frequently made of black velvet, and trimmed with bands or rouleaux of coloured velvet—as green, violet, or dark blue. The effect thus produced is very pretty.

Our Illustrations comprise three figures—two ladies and a gentleman. The costumes of the ladies have been drawn from dresses just completed in the elegant *magasin des modes* of Madame E. Devy, 73, Lower Grosvenor-street.

The ball dress is of white tulle, with five flounces, edged with white silk fringe, headed by a row of plaid velvet ribbon. The corsage is of the fashionable square shape, trimmed with ribbon and fringe. The head-dress consists of a lappet of white lace and a cache-peigne bouquet of variegated roses.

The out-door dress is of dark lilac taffeta, and has three flounces, edged with embroidery in shades of violet silk. The mantle, of black velvet, is trimmed with tassel fringe. The bonnet is of white terry velvet, trimmed with lilac feathers and blonde.

It has heretofore been our practice to confine our Illustrations of fashion chiefly to ladies' and children's costume; inasmuch as the unpicturesque and ungraceful male garb of the present time offers nothing that is worthy of being either delineated or described. However, our group of figures this day includes a very elegant costume of a cavalier of the reign of Charles II. We offer it suggestively to the younger portion of our male readers, even at the hazard of incurring the displeasure of "respectable elderly gentlemen," one of whom has recently, in the columns of the *Times*, expressed his horror at the encroaching luxury of velvet and brocade. Nevertheless, we trust our Illustrations may furnish a few useful hints to those lords of creation who consider it their duty to bestow attention on the "outer man," and who suffer under the infliction of being obliged to disfigure themselves in the inconvenient and unbecoming garb which modern custom enjoins. We neither expect nor recommend any gentleman, however adventurous, to adopt all at once an innovation in costume such as might naturally enough lead to the conviction that he had doffed his *strait-waistcoat* too soon. It is well to bear in mind the admonition of the poet, who wisely says:—

Be not the first by whom the new is tried,
Nor yet the last to lay the old aside.

Desirable modifications may, however, be introduced partially and gradually; and surely any change in the male costume of modern Europe can scarcely be for the worse.

The cavalier's costume is composed of very rich materials, and exhibits a glowing combination of colour. The cloak is of dark blue velvet, lined with amber silk. The doublet, of violet-colour satin, is richly embroidered and laced with gold; and the sleeves, which are turned up with broad vevers of blue silk, show under-sleeves of fine white lawn, in two large full puffs, with narrow ruffles of vandyked lace turned up. The loose short hose of pink cashmere are edged and trimmed with blue fringe. The flesh-coloured silk stockings are confined below the knees by garters of black velvet, fastened by bows of pink ribbon with flowing ends. The shoes have pink heels, and are fastened by large shoe-knots of pink ribbon. The hat, of grey felt, is trimmed round the crown by a puffing of blue ribbon, and has on one side a rose-colour ostrich feather.

MOLDAVIA AND WALLACHIA.—A letter from Jassy, dated the 7th inst., and received in Paris, states that, in consequence of despatches received from Paris, Colonel Besson, the French commissioner for defining the boundaries, set out immediately for Bessarabia. It was believed that the boundary line of the new frontier would be completely terminated in twenty-five or thirty days. Consequently the evacuation of the provinces by the Austrian troops might be commenced at the beginning of February, so as to be concluded by the 1st of March, the period at which a thaw generally commences in those countries. The present season was as favourable as possible for the movement of troops, the roads being in excellent order.

THE AUSTRIAN EMPEROR AT MILAN.—The *Milan Gazette* of the 19th inst., after announcing four pardons granted to Italian refugees, and eighteen more to persons whose names are not Italian, gives an account of the visit of the Emperor to various public offices and institutions—viz., to the Imperial Lieutenancy; the Provincial Delegation, where a splendid album, by Milanese artists, was presented to him; and then to the Institute of the Society for the Encouragement of Arts and Trades, where his Majesty was received by the President, Count Taverna, who had a conversation of some duration with the Emperor on the objects and progress of the establishment.



FASHIONS FOR FEBRUARY.



SWORD PRESENTED TO GENERAL LA MARMORA.

THE presentation of this superb tribute to the patriotism of La Marmora originated as follows:—In the course of the year 1855 a national subscription was opened in Piedmont to present to the Sardinian army then serving in the Crimea a liberal supply of woollen shirts, cigars, and sundry other articles for the comfort of the troops. At the conclusion of peace the committee who had been charged with the distribution of the funds collected for the above purpose determined to devote a part of the residue to the presentation of a sword to General La Marmora, who, in command of the Sardinian army in the East, had so largely contributed to win new laurels for the flag of Savoy. This proposition was received with great satisfaction by the subscribers, and a very able artist was charged with the execution of the sword. The illustration shows the handle and hilt of the sword,

which is a fine specimen of ornamentation. The female figure represents Italy: in her left hand she holds the national flag, and in her right one the victor's fasces, emblematic of union. The sword has lately been presented to General La Marmora, and has been received by him with an assurance of his grateful feeling for this splendid national testimonial.

In Gallenga's "History of Piedmont," published in 1855, we find the following recognition of the patriotic services of this distinguished General:—

The genius of one man, Alfonso La Marmora, has done more for the security of his country than could have been achieved by the construction of any number of impregnable bastions. La Marmora has regenerated the army of Piedmont. Appointed to the Ministry of War since November, 1849, he brought into every branch of his administration an energy and activity equally characteristic of himself and of every member of his brave family. He reformed the staff by the wholesale dismissal of disabled, disaffected, or incapable officers, utterly regardless of personal favour or courtly patronage, perfectly unmoved by senseless popular outcry. By the enforcement of a strict, impartial rule, by a thorough reform of the educational system in military colleges, by a constant call upon the mental and bodily exertions both of soldiers and officers, he produced, in less than six years, the most civilised as well as the best disciplined army that ever could be organised out of Italian elements. That army—or part of it, though by no means, as it was supposed, the élite of it, for it was draughted by battalions or companies out of every corps—he has now taken under his guidance to the Crimea; and a first encounter on the banks of the Tchernaya (August 16th, 1855) seems to have justified the most sanguine expectations, both of the Minister himself and of the country. It is truly auspicious, no less than remarkable, that the same La Marmora who had the good fortune to save his King's life in the midst of the turmoil of Milan in 1848, who preserved the integrity of the Monarchy by stifling the insurrectionary movement at Genoa in 1849, should be charged with the honour of the national arms in 1855.

THE ENGLISH HOUSE IN DANTZIC.

THIS is an interesting specimen of the picturesque street architecture of the ancient town of Dantzic, noted for its fine old style of building. The lofty gabled façade is upwards of four centuries old: it was built in the year 1440, by the Guild of English Cloth Merchants, as their dépôt and place of business. The front has never undergone any alteration, and is now as it was erected. The house has for the last century been used as an hotel, &c.—the best in the city; frequented by the officers of the English fleet when any of the ships put into Dantzic.

PORTABLE SCHOOL.

WHILE we possess portable buildings for nearly all kinds of purposes, there seems to be no reason why this species of accommodation should not be extended to the business of education. Mr. Robert Ault, a builder, at Stourbridge, has the merit of this new application. He has erected at Wordsley, in Staffordshire, a school-room of this kind. It is called a portable school-room, because its sides, ends, roof, and floor are formed in compartments screwed together, which can be taken to pieces, and removed to any other site. It is 24 feet long, 16 feet wide, and 8 feet high to the springing of the roof. The roof is open to the ridge, which is 16 feet from the floor. The whole is constructed of timber, and capable of holding 100 children. A composition has been applied to the exterior, which renders it quite weatherproof. It is well warmed, with one cwt. of coals per week, by a new kind of stove; which,

together with the whole building, was designed by Mr. F. Smalman Smith, architect, Stourbridge, and was made by Mr. Ault for the sum of £60, including a belfry and shutters. Such a school-room would be very useful where a site or funds are difficult to obtain, or where the ground is undermined, or the population fluctuating. This school-



PORTABLE SCHOOL.

room has been provided to accommodate a mixed school, in a newly-built district, for which a permanent building will be erected as soon as the title of the site can be made clear, when it will be removed to another part of the parish, to serve the purpose of a Ragged School.

This novelty in building has received the following testimonial from the Board of Education:—

Education Department, Council Office, Downing-street, London.

January 23rd, 1856.

I have examined the Portable School designed by Mr. Smalman Smith (for the district of California, in Wordsley parish), and it seemed to me ingeniously contrived, firmly constructed, and admirably adapted to meet the wants of a neighbourhood where there is a difficulty in obtaining a secure site for building purposes. The School seemed to stand quite securely and to be perfectly weather-tight. There would, I should say, be no difficulty as to proper ventilation of such a room, nor as to fitting it up in such a manner as that the best plans of school organisation might be carried out in it. H. J. SANDFORD, Assistant Inspector of Schools.



PORTABLE SCHOOL.

RUSKIN ON TURNER'S PICTURE OF THE GODDESS OF DISCORD IN THE GARDEN OF THE HESPERIDES.

(Engraved at page 93.)

IN another part of our Journal will be found an engraving of the Goddess of Discord in the Garden of the Hesperides. It may not be uninteresting to the reader to know what Mr. Ruskin says of this picture. Mr. Ruskin is, unquestionably, the most brilliant English prose-writer of the middle of the nineteenth century. With much less of that high pressure which in many of Mr. Macaulay's most striking productions leaves on the reader an unpleasant sensation of effort, Ruskin surpasses him in effective power. Ruskin is less emphatic; but there is a curious felicity in his power that makes the reader feel that when he takes pen in hand the English language becomes to him like clay in the hands of a skilful potter.

Ruskin's system of art-criticism is sound: throwing aside the whole modern school, from Diderot, with his intellectual grasp, to Waagen, with his technical scholarship, he takes a free glance at not only the aspects but the fundamental framework of nature, and then applies his tests to modern art with a freedom unparalleled. Never was there in art such an iconoclast; only the Aristotelian acuteness of his observation, and the refreshing originality and fulminating force of his style, procure pardon for the way in which he lays about him.

Strange to say, it is on this occasion a noble monument of Turner which we must defend against this sinewy image-breaker.

We cannot accept (says Ruskin, in his recent pamphlet*) the impossibilities of mountain form into which the wretched system of Poussin's idealism moulded Turner's memory of the Alps. It is not possible that hill masses on this scale should be divided into those simple, steep, and stonelike forms. Great mountains, however bold, are always full of endless fracture and detail, and indicate on their brows and edges of their cliffs both the multitudinousness and the deeply-wearing continuance of the force of time, and stream, and tempest.

Poussin may, and does, lie open to this charge. Still more so Salvator, with his Calabrian school of mountain idealism. But, as regards this picture of Turner, we may ask if the Garden of the Hesperides was in the Rhetian Alps or in Africa? No doubt that, as a representation of Swiss scenery, it is false. No doubt that in the Swiss mountains, as well as in the Apennines (a warmer region, but exposed to the humidity generated by two seas), there is all that trituration by rain and snow of which he speaks. But any one who has seen African mountains must admit that they are much sharper and more stone-like. Mr. Ruskin must have seen drawings of Sinai and Gebel Silsili, the Eastern prolongations of the Atlas. (We do not allude to hills that have been artificially cut.) How much sharper are mountains like these than the Alps; and even in the Western Atlas the rain and snow, and consequent trituration, are a mere title of these agencies in Switzerland.

Mr. Ruskin then proceeds to treat of the want of grass and of the superabundant brown in this African landscape. But this is the very highest compliment that can be paid to Turner. In African landscape the trees are green; but the earths, even in professed gardens, and all mountains, are generally most unpleasantly brown.

Mr. Ruskin then goes on to depict by the help of his own brilliant imagination a fancy garden of the Hesperides out of the components of Swiss scenery, complaining, to begin with, that "Poussin kept Turner for twenty years from seeing that grass was green." We can only say that if such a landscape were painted as an African one it would

* "Notes on the Turner Gallery, at Marlborough House."



"THE ENGLISH HOUSE," IN DANTZIC.

WANTED LEFT-OFF CLOTHES, Uni-
forms, Miscellaneous Property, &c. The highest price given
Ladies or Gentlemen waited on by addressing to Mr. or Mrs. C.
HYAM, 16, Tyler-street, Regent-street, W; or, parcels being sent, the
utmost value in cash immediately remitted.—Established 32 years.

NEW BOOKS, &c.

Now ready, and may be had through all Booksellers and News Agents.

VOLUME XXIX. of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS, from July to December, 1856, containing amongst others Ten Beautiful Coloured Engravings, Scenes and Incidents in the Crimea, Coronation of the Emperor of Russia (Thirty Sketches), Cathedral and other Public Buildings at Moscow, Illuminations at St. Petersburg, Twenty-five Fine Art Engravings, Return of the Guards from the Crimea, Foundations in France, Manchester Exhibition Building, Architectural Improvements in Paris, Portraits of Eminent Persons, the "Resolute" presented to her Majesty by the American Government, Churches New and Restored, Attempted Assassination of the King of Naples, Royal Thames Yacht Club, Antiquities of London, Ten Sketches in the Free and Slave States of America, Deane's New Mode of Manufacturing Iron and Steel (Five Cuts), Railway Station at Cairo Earthquake at Puzosol, near Naples, Lazzaroni on the Shore of Naples, a Street Scene in New Plymouth, New Zealand, Monuments and Testimonials to Persons for Distinguished Services, &c.—Price, elegantly bound in cloth, gilt edges, 2s.; in paper cover, 1s.

The ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS Volumes from the Commencement (May 11, 1842, to December, 1856, consisting of Twenty-nine Volumes, may now be had through all Booksellers and News Agents. Price of the Complete Set, bound in Strong Paper, for Exportation, £20 12s. Bound in Cloth, equally gilt £27 10s. Any single Volume can be had separately. Price of Vol. I. cloth, 2s.; II. to XXVII. 1s. each; XXVIII. 2s.; XXIX. 2s.; XXX. 1s.; XXXI. to XXXV. 2s. each; XXXVI. 2s.; XXXVII. 1s.; XXXVIII. 2s.; XXXIX. 2s.; or in Paper Covers, at 5s. per Volume less.

Covers for Binding the Volumes, 2s. 6d. Reading-cases, 2s. Port-folios, 4s.

For the convenience of Subscribers, every Number is kept on Sale during One Month from the date of Publication, at the published price; after this period they are charged double.

Office, 198, Strand.

THE NEW NOVEL, WILD FLOWER.

By the Author of "The House of Elmore."

Written with much depth of feeling.—*Examiner*.

HENRY CLARENDON. BY ALICE COMYN. 2 V.

THE GENERAL'S DAUGHTER. BY CAPTAIN KNIGHT. 2 Vols.

PEN AND PENCIL PICTURES. BY THOMAS HOOD. 1 vol. with Illustrations. 10s. 6d.

THE DAYS OF MY LIFE: an Autobiography. By the Author of "Margaret Maitland." 3 vols. (Just ready.)

HURST and BLACKETT, Publishers (Successors to Henry Colburn).

PROF. CONTANSEAU'S NEW FRENCH DICTIONARY.

In one vol., post 8vo, price 10s. 6d., bound.

A PRACTICAL DICTIONARY of the FRENCH and ENGLISH LANGUAGES, compiled from the most recent and best Authorities, English and French, and containing the following Improvements:—

1. New Words in general use in each Language not to be found in other Dictionaries.
2. Compound Words not translated literally.
3. Examples of the most familiar Idioms and Phrases, &c.
4. Acceptations of the Words separated by figures, with directions as to the choice to be made of the proper Word.
5. Examples of the most familiar Idioms and Phrases, &c.

French Verbs and Adjectives, showing what Case they govern.

By LEON CONTANSEAU, Professor of the French Language at the Hon. East India Company's Military College, Addiscombe, Author of a "French Grammar," "Prosauteurs et Poètes Français," and "Guide to French Translation."

London: LONGMAN, BROWN, GREEN, LONGMANS, and ROBERTS.

LORD BROUGHAM'S SPEECHES.

Just published, post 8vo, 5s., cloth.

LORD BROUGHAM'S SPEECHES.

Vol. I. To be completed in 2 vols.

London and Glasgow: RICHARD GRIFFIN and Co.

On January 31st will be published, in a handsome cover, price 12s., Part I. of

THE SUNBEAM: A Photographic Magazine.

Edited by PHILIP DELAMOTTE, Professor of Drawing, King's College.

CONTENTS.—The Woods at Penllyn; photographed by J. D. Llewellyn, Esq. The Tournament Court in the Castle of Heidelberg; by Sir Jocelyn Coghill, Bart. Magdalen College, Oxford, from the Chertwell; by Philip H. Delamotte, F.R.S.A. The Baptistry, Canterbury Cathedral; by James Bedford, Esq.

The Photographs are printed in the best manner, Mounted on Card-board, accompanied by Descriptive Letterpress.

Part II. will be ready on March 31st.

CHAPMAN and HALL, 193, Piccadilly.

"I TOO," and OTHER POEMS. By I. DEKLEBUD.

Cheap Edition. Fcap. 8vo cloth, 1s. 9d. Free by post on receipt of the amount in postage-stamps.

London: KEMBLE and SON, 407, Oxford-street; and all Booksellers.

Just published, price 5s.,

THE NATIONAL REVIEW. No. VII.

CONTENTS.

1. William Wordsworth. The Relations of Religion to Art. Balzac on Pantoufles. By L. de Gozlan. Mr. Spurgeon and his Popularity.
2. Latham and Grimm on the Ethnology of Germany.
3. The Literature of Spirit-Rapping.
4. The Credit Mobilier and Banking Companies in France.
5. Strauss and German Hellenism.
6. The Slave Empire of the West.
7. Books suitable for Reading Societies.

CHAPMAN and HALL, 193, Piccadilly.

A TREATISE ON ACACIA CHARCOAL.

(prepared by Electricity), and the Antiseptic Laws. Great results from simple means in Cancer, Lupus, Scrofula, and Consumption; Ulcers, Marasmus, Spermatorrhoea, Skin Diseases, Indigestion, and many minor complaints. Post-free.—W. WASHINGTON EVANS, 12, Edward-street, Primrose-hill, London.

BRICK-MAKING.—A Pamphlet containing

Two Papers to which the Society of Arts awarded their Silver Medal forwarded on receipt of 14 postage-stamps.—HUMPHREY CHAMBERLAIN, Kempsey, near Worcester.

PAINLESS TOOTH EXTRACTION without Chloroform, by Congelation.

By J. WHITEMAN WEBB, L.S.A., Surgeon-Dentist, 21, Southampton-street, Bloomsbury-square. Operations daily from 10 to 4.

BINDING THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

NEWS Subscribers and purchasers can have their VOLUMES BOUND in the appropriate Covers, with Gilt Edges, at 5s. per Volume, by sending them, carriage-paid, with Post-office Order, payable to LEIGHTON, KEMP, and HODGE, 13, Shoe-lane, London. The only Binders authorized by the Proprietors.

NEW READING-CASES FOR PROTECTING THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS during perusal.

PORTFOLIOS to contain Six Months' Numbers, 4s. each. CASES for BINDING the Volumes, 2s. 6d. each. May be obtained at the Office, 198, Strand; and of all Booksellers.

ALL THE LONDON NEWSPAPERS punctually dispatched by the Morning, Evening, and Foreign Mails.

to all parts of the United Kingdom, India, Australia, and Foreign Countries, by W. DAWSON and SONS, Newspaper and Advertising Office, Abchurch-lane, and 74, Cannon-street, City, E.C.—Established 1829.

NO CHARGE FOR STAMPING PAPER and ENVELOPES with Arms, Cornet, Crest, or Initials.

RODRIQUES' Cream-laid Adhesive Envelopes, 1d. per 100; Cream-laid Note, full-size, five quires: 1d.; thick Note, five quires for 1s.; Postcard, 5s. per ream; Sermon Paper, 4s. 6d. All kinds of Stationery equally cheap, at H. RODRIQUES', 21, Piccadilly, London.

WEDDING-CARDS, Enamelled Envelopes

stamped in silver, with arms, crest, or flowers; "At Home," and breakfast invitations in splendid variety, and in the latest fashion. Card-plate elegantly engraved, and 100 superlatively printed, for 4s. 6d. observe, at HENRY RODRIQUES', 21, Piccadilly, London.

STEREOSCOPIC VIEWS are best preserved

from injury by MILNE'S PATENT EXPANDING HOLDER, which instantly secures from one to fifty slides. Plain leather, 1s. 6d.; rose, gilt, 2s. each.—DOBBS, KIDD, and Co., 131, Fleet-street, London; W. and J. Milne, Edinburgh; and all Stationers, &c.

MORRELL'S CARBINE WRITING FLUID.

A Brilliant Red Ink, being anti-corrosive, is specially adapted for steel pens.—Sold by all Booksellers and Stationers.

REEVES'S DRAWING PENCILS,

in every degree of shade. 113, Cheapside, London, E.C.

ROYAL ASYLUM of ST. ANN'S

SOCIETY for Children of those once in Prosperity, Orphans or Not. The HALF-YEARLY ELECTION will take place at the LONDON TAVERN on FRIDAY, 13th February next. New Subscribers are entitled to Vote.

Subscriptions gratefully received by the Committee, or by Messrs. Freeman and Co., 27, Gracechurch-street, E.C. E. F. LEECH, Sec.

Executors of Benefactors by Will become Life Governors according to the amount of the Bequest.

NEW MUSIC, &c.

BOOSEY and SONS' MUSICAL LIBRARY.

—100,000 works are in circulation, including above 2000 Operas, in every shape. Subscription, Two guineas per annum. Full particulars gratis from Boosey and Sons, 21, Holles-street.

CORNET and PIANO.—Rigoletto, 3s.;

Trovatore, 3s.; Ernani, 3s.; La Traviata, 3s. All in the CORNET MICCELLANY. Arranged by THOMAS HARPER. BOOSEY and SONS, 21 and 23, Holles-street.

CORNET TUTOR.—Price 5s. Boosey's "Universal Cornet Tutor," edited by STANTON JONES, containing the elements of music, and 150 exercises by Carnaud, Forceller, Clausen, &c., and 50 popular melodies, 15 pages, stitched, price 5s.—BOOSEY and SONS, 21 and 23, Holles-street.

CORNET and PIANO.—Robert le Diable, 3s.;

Puritani, 2s.; Lucia, 2s.; Der Freischütz, 2s. All in the CORNET MICCELLANY. Arranged by THOMAS HARPER. BOOSEY and SONS, 21 and 23, Holles-street.

THE VIOLIN.—Il Trovatore, 2s. 6d.; Ernani, 2s. 6d.; Norma, 2s. 6d.; Lucia, 2s. 6d.; Puritani, 2s. 6d.;

Der Freischütz, 2s. 6d. All complete for the Violin (unabridged).—BOOSEY and SONS, 21 and 23, Holles-street.

THE VIOLIN.—Sonnambula, 2s. 6d.; Don Pasquale, 2s. 6d.;

Massanella, 2s. 6d.; Les Huguenots, 2s. 6d.; Don Juan, 2s. 6d.; Il Barbiere, 2s. 6d. All complete for the Violin (unabridged).—BOOSEY and SONS, 21 and 23, Holles-street.

CONCERTINA TUTOR by CASE.—Third

Edition, much enlarged, and reduced to 7s. 6d. "Boosey's Universal Concertina Instructions," Edited by GEORGE CASE. BOOSEY and SONS, 21 and 23, Holles-street.

CONCERTINA and PIANO.—The following

are some of the last numbers of the CONCERTINA MICCELLANY, arranged by GEORGE CASE, price 2s. 6d. each.—La Traviata, Il Trovatore, Les Vepres Siciliennes, Mendelssohn's Songs without Words, Wedding March, Stabat Mater, &c. BOOSEY and SONS, 21 and 23, Holles-street.

FOUR HANDS.—Il Trovatore, 6s.; La

Traviata, 6s.; Rigoletto, 6s. Arranged for Two Performers on the Piano, by NORDMANN. In handsome cloth covers. BOOSEY and SONS, 21 and 23, Holles-street.

FOUR HANDS.—Les Huguenots, 7s. 6d.;

Lucia, 6s.; Ernani, 5s.; Sonnambula, 7s. 6d.; Norma, 5s. Arranged for two performers on the piano by Nordmann. In handsome cloth covers.—BOOSEY and SONS, 21 and 23, Holles-street.

GREEN'S LITTLE SONGS for LITTLE

SINGERS.—A new edition superbly illustrated in colours. 12 songs 1s. each. Complete in one volume, price 6s. cloth. BOOSEY and SONS, 21 and 23, Holles-street.

R. S. PRATTEN'S PERFECTED FLUTES

on the old system of fingering, possessing a greater amount and finer quality of tone than any other instruments. Prices from 4 guineas each, manufactured by Boosey and Sons, 21, Holles-street. Under the personal direction of Mr. Pratten, who is in constant attendance for the purpose of displaying the superior qualities of these instruments to purchasers.

KOENIG'S JOURNAL for CORNET à

PISTONS and PIANOFORTE contains all the most popular Songs, Airs from Operas, and Dance Music. The JANUARY Number includes Julien's French Quadrille, Wedding Waltz, price 4s. Complete catalogues sent on application to JULIEN and Co., The First Part of "Koenig's Tutor for Cornet à Pistons" is now ready, price 5s.—214, Regent-street, W.

JULIEN'S BILLET-DOUX WALTZ,

Beautifully Illustrated by Brandard. Price 4s., postage-free. JULIEN and Co., 214, Regent-street, W.

JULIEN'S MY MARY ANN POLKA.

Illustrated in Colours by Brandard. Price 4s., postage-free. 214, Regent-street, W.

JULIEN'S FLIRTATION POLKA, per-

formed with the greatest success at Her Majesty's Theatre, beautifully illustrated in Colours. Price 4s., postage-free. JULIEN and Co., 214, Regent-street, W.

JULIEN'S FRENCH QUADRILLE, illus-

trated in Colours by Brandard. Price 4s., postage-free. 214, Regent-street, W.

JULIEN'S CONSTANCE WALTZ.

Illustrated in Colours by Brandard. Price 4s., postage-free. 214, Regent-street, W.

JULIEN'S CADEAU for 1857, price 5s.,

postage-free containing the French Quadrille, the My Mary Ann Polka, and the Billet Doux Waltz. Illustrated by Brandard. The whole included in a beautiful cover complete with gold and colours. JULIEN and Co., 214, Regent-street, W.

THE RETURN POLKA. By HARRY

HARDY. Dedicated to Major-General Windham. 2s. 6d. Also the Star of Warwick Waltz. With splendid Titlepage, by Brandard. 4s. London: JULIEN and Co.; and Chappell.

G. A. OSBORNE'S NEW PIANOFORTE

WORKS.—

1. Ah che le Morte, and the Mistrere.
2. Fantasia on favourite airs, Il Trovatore.
3. No, non udrai, and Di prova il mar.
4. Libiamo and Parigi cara.
5. Il re-tor to the King.
6. A favourite Russian air, as a Duet.

Price of each 3s., postage-free. JULIEN and Co., 214, Regent-street, W.

JULIEN and CO.'S MUSICAL LIBRARY.

Three Guineas' Worth of Music Gratis to all subscribers, who are liberally supplied on loan with Music of every description; including 100,000 New English and Foreign Compositions and Complete Operas. Everything new added to the Library on the Day of Publication. Prospectuses may be obtained on application to JULIEN and Co., 214, Regent-street, W.

ROUND THE CORNER WAITING,

WHAT WILL PEOPLE SAY? New Song. Written by CHARLES SWAIN, Esq.; Composed by RALPH DICKIN, Esq.; sent post-free. By the same Authors. The Meadow Gate, 1s.; Is-bare You Call, 1s.; Yesterday and I, 1s.—now, 1s. Published by EWER and CO., 390, Oxford-street.

MENDELSSOHN'S PILGRIM'S MARCH

(Andante from the 4th, or Italian, Symphony), now published separately as a Pianoforte solo, price 1s., post-free. (Copyright.) Property of EWER and Co., 390, Oxford-street, Publishers of all Mendelssohn's Works. Catalogues sent gratis.

THE ENGLISH LASSIE QUADRILLES.

The Grand War Galop, re-stamped (splendidly illustrated in colours), Snow Flakes, and Sparkling Spray, charming music; Happy Land and Robin Adair, celebrated fantasias; and the most brilliant variations on the Katecheter's Daughter, for the pianoforte, by Thomas Chantrey, are published only by ADDISON and Co., London.

NEW SONG.—THE LANGUAGE of the

EYE, as sung with the most distinguished success by Miss Poole, commencing "Is sweet to hear a gentle voice." Composed by G. HODGSON. Price 2s., postage-free. Caution.—This is the only edition sung by Miss Poole. DUFF and HODGSON, 65, Oxford-street.

NEW SONG. WINTER EVERGREENS.

By STEPHEN GLOVER. Price 2s. 6d., postage-free. This song, published in the same elegant manner as "Summer Trees" and "Autumn Fruits," will be appreciated for its cheerful and animated character. Well adapted for the festivities of the present season. London: DUFF and HODGSON, 65, Oxford-street.

NEW SONG.—THINE FOR EVER. By

the Author of "W if you love me then as now?" "Dearest, then, I'll love you more." &c. Price 2s., postage-free. This beautiful ballad possesses all the charms, both with regard to words and music, that secured for its predecessors that immense popularity which they deservedly obtained.—DUFF and HODGSON, 65, Oxford-street.

LANGUAGE of the EYE.—(They talk

of other Lands and Climes.) Third (Illustrated) Edition, 2s. Those who are tired with spiritless music will find pleasure in this genuine, original song. Illustrated by J. E. LEECH, Esq. and Music by JOSEPH H. W. HARRING, Professor of Singing. Published only by METZLER and Co., 37, Great Marlborough-street.

NEW MUSIC, &c.

D'ALBERT'S ALBUM for 1857, beautifully

Illustrated by BRANDARD, elegantly bound in Watford Silk, containing entirely new Polkas, Waltzes, Quadrilles, Schottisches, &c., price 21s., sent free.—CHAPPELL and Co., 50, New Bond-street.

D'ALBERT'S BOBBING AROUND.—

Quadrille, in which is introduced the most popular airs of the day. Price 3s. solo, 4s. duet, post-free. CHAPPELL and Co., 50, New Bond-street.

D'ALBERT'S QUEEN'S WALTZ, beau-

tifully illustrated by BRANDARD. Price 4s., post-free. CHAPPELL and Co., 50, New Bond-street.

D'ALBERT'S ST. PETERSBURG, New

Quadrille on Russian Airs, illustrated by BRANDARD. Price 3s., post-free.—CHAPPELL and Co., 50, New Bond-street.

D'ALBERT'S CZARINA SCHOTTISCHE.

Illustrated. Price 3s., post-free. CHAPPELL and Co., 50, New Bond-street.

D'ALBERT'S SOLDIERS' POLKA. With

a Portrait of his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, by Brandard, in Colours. Price 3s., post-free. CHAPPELL and Co., 50, New Bond-street.

D'ALBERT'S EMPEROR'S GALOP, beau-

tifully illustrated by BRANDARD. Price 3s., Solo or Duet, Post-free. CHAPPELL and Co., 50, New Bond-street.

CRIMSON ROSES. Ballad by Signor

PARAVICINI. Composed for and sung with great success by Miss Dolly. Price 2s., post-free. CHAPPELL and Co., 50, New Bond-street.

SWITZERLAND. By ALBERT LINDAHL.

Morceau descriptif pour Piano. Price 3s. 6d. Also, by the same Composer, GERMANY. Price 3s., post-free. CHAPPELL and Co., 50, New Bond-street.

RIMBAULT'S YOUNG PUPIL, in 24 Nos.,

containing the following popular Airs of the day, arranged for the Youngest Performers on the Piano-forte. Price 1s. each, post-free; also as Duets 1s. 6d. each.

No. 1. D'Albert's Fair Star Valse.
2. D'Albert's Dew-drop Valse.
3. The Irish Emigrant.
4. Red, White, and Blue.
5. D'Albert's Sultan's Polka.
6. Do. Como Quadrille.
7. Nelly By.
8. The Campbells are Coming.
9. Ye Banks and Braes.
10. D'Albert's Faust Valse.
11. Do. King Pippin Polka.
12. Annie Laurie.
13. D'Albert's Palermo Quadrille.
14. Low Back'd Car.
15. The Original Varsoviana.
16. D'Albert's Margarita Valse.
17. Home, Sweet Home.
18. Partant pour la Syrie.
19. Last Rose of Summer.
20. Bonnie Dundee.
21. Celler Hunting.
22. Bohemian Air.
23. Ken Bolt.
24. D'Albert's Queen of Roses Valse.
CHAPPELL and Co., 50, New Bond-street.

BRINLEY RICHARDS' HOME, SWEET

HOME! and BLUE BELLS of SCOTLAND, arranged for the piano-forte by this most popular composer. Price 3s. each; or, as duets, 3s. 6d., post-free.

"Mr. Richards has been more than usually happy in the arrange-ment of the above national airs. They are equally effective in the drawing-room as in the school-room."—*Musical World*. CHAPPELL and Co., 50, New Bond-street.

MESSIAH, from MOZART'S SCORE

newly arranged by JOHN BISHOP in Vocal Score, with Piano or Organ Accompaniment, complete, with Book of Words, 2s. only. At the recent performance of "Messiah" we were glad to see so many among the audience reading, not from the sixteen books of the words (which surely ought now to become obsolete), but from the score published by Messrs. Robert Cocks and Co., containing about 200 large octavo pages, admirably printed, correct in every particular, and of which the price was but 2s. The publishers who supply a work at such a trifling cost deserve the support of the public, and must obtain it if they are to continue their enterprise.—*Vide Dublin Daily Express*, Jan. 19.—N.B. Specimen pages gratis and postage-free of 16 Oratorios, 2s. each. London: ROBERT COCKS and Co., New Burlington-street, W.

SHEPHERD, WHAT'S LOVE? (RE-

PENTANCE), Song by Mrs. ARKWRIGHT, 2s. Mrs. Cartwright. "The moonlit path," "A pilgrim's rest," "Break, break, break," 2s. each.—LONSDALE'S Musical Circulating Library, for town, country, or abroad, (terms 2 guineas and upwards, per annum) 26, Old Broad-street, London.

PRINCE ERFERICK of PRUSSIA'S

WALTZ. By A. E. KING. This admired Waltz, named by express permission of his Royal Highness, is published by CREAMES and Co., 201, Regent-street. Price 3s.

ALL MUSIC HALF PRICE, including all

the New and Fashionable Music of the Day by the best Composers (with the exception of the cheap publications), at EVANS and CO.'S, 77, Baker-street, Portman-square. Country orders by post punctually executed.

CHAPPELL'S FOREIGN MODEL PIANO-

FORTE, price Fifty Guineas.—This instrument has (unlike the ordinary Cottage Pianoforte) Three Strings and the fullest Grand compass of seven Octaves. It is strengthened by every possible means to endure the greatest amount of wear, and to stand perfectly in any climate. The workmanship is of the best description, the tone is round, full, and rich, and the power equal to that of a Richard Grand. The case is of the most elegant construction, in rosewood, the touch elastic, and the repetition very rapid. Every possible precaution has been taken to ensure its standing well in tune. Chappell and Co. especially invite the attention of the public, the profession, and merchants to the Foreign Model, feeling assured that no Pianoforte, in all respects comparable, has hitherto been made in England at the same price. Every instrument will be warranted, and (if desired) exchanged within twelve months of the purchase. 50, New Bond-street, London.

JULIEN and CO.'S CORNET à PISTONS,

Approved and tried by Herr KOENIG. Manufactured by ANTOINE COQUET, No. 1.—The Drawing-room, Cornet à Pistons (by Antoine Coquet), used by Herr Koening. £8 8 0

2.—The Concert-room Cornet à Pistons (by Antoine Coquet), used by Herr Koening, at M. Julien's Concerts. 8 8 0

3.—The Military Cornet à Pistons 5 5 0

4.—The Ample Cornet à Pistons 5 5 0

5.—The Navy Cornet à Pistons 4 4 0

6.—The Ordinary Cornet à Pistons (First quality) 3 3 0

7.—The Ordinary Cornet à Pistons (Second quality) 2 2 0

List of Prices, with Drawings of the Instruments, may be had on application. JULIEN and Co., 214, Regent-street, W.

MUSICAL BOX DEPOT, 54, Cornhill,

London, for the sale of MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS, made for the celebrated Messrs. NICOLE (Freres), of Geneva. Large sizes, four airs, 11 in. long, 14s.; six airs 16 in. long, 16s.; eight airs, 20 in. long, 22s.; ten airs, 24s.; twelve airs, 28s.; sixteen airs, 36s.; twenty-four airs, 48s.; thirty-six airs, 60s.; forty-eight airs, 72s.; sixty-four airs, 84s.; eighty-four airs, 96s.; one hundred and twenty-four airs, 108s.; one hundred and forty-four airs, 120s.; one hundred and sixty-four airs, 132s.; one hundred and eighty-four airs, 144s.; two hundred and four airs, 160s.; two hundred and twenty-four airs, 172s.; two hundred and four airs, 184s.; two hundred and twenty-four airs, 196s.; two hundred and four airs, 208s.; two hundred and twenty-four airs, 220s.; two hundred and four airs, 232s.; two hundred and twenty-four airs, 244s.; two hundred and four airs, 256s.; two hundred and twenty-four airs, 268s.; two hundred and four airs, 280s.; two hundred and twenty-four airs, 292s.; two hundred and four airs, 304s.; two hundred and twenty-four airs, 316s.; two hundred and four airs, 328s.; two hundred and twenty-four airs, 340s.; two hundred and four airs, 352s.; two hundred and twenty-four airs, 364s.; two hundred and four airs, 376s.; two hundred and twenty-four airs, 388s.; two hundred and four airs, 400s.; two hundred and twenty-four airs, 412s.; two hundred and four airs, 424s.; two hundred and twenty-four airs, 436s.; two hundred and four airs, 448s.; two hundred and twenty-four airs, 460s.; two hundred and four airs, 472s.; two hundred and twenty-four airs, 484s.; two hundred and four airs, 496s.; two hundred and twenty-four airs, 508s.; two hundred and four airs, 520s.; two hundred and twenty-four airs, 532s.; two hundred and four airs, 544s.; two hundred and twenty-four airs, 556s.; two hundred and four airs, 568s.; two hundred and twenty-four airs, 580s.; two hundred and four airs, 592s.; two hundred and twenty-four airs, 604s.; two hundred and four airs, 616s.; two hundred and twenty-four airs, 628s.; two hundred and four airs, 640s.; two hundred and twenty-four airs, 652s.; two hundred and four airs, 664s.; two hundred and twenty-four airs, 676s.; two hundred and four airs, 688s.; two hundred and twenty-four airs, 700s.; two hundred and four airs, 712s.; two hundred and twenty-four airs, 724s.; two hundred and four airs, 736s.; two hundred and twenty-four airs, 748s.; two hundred and four airs, 760s.; two hundred and twenty-four airs, 772s.; two hundred and four airs, 784s.; two hundred and twenty-four airs, 796s.; two hundred and four airs, 808s.; two hundred and twenty-four airs, 820s.; two hundred and four airs, 832s.; two hundred and twenty-four airs, 844s.; two hundred and four airs, 856s.; two hundred and twenty-four airs, 868s.; two hundred and four airs, 880s.; two hundred and twenty-four airs, 892s.; two hundred and four airs, 904s.; two hundred and twenty-four airs, 916s.; two hundred and four airs, 928s.; two hundred and twenty-four airs, 940s.; two hundred and four airs, 952s.; two hundred and twenty-four airs, 964s.; two hundred and four airs, 976s.; two hundred and twenty-four airs, 988s.; two hundred and four airs, 1000s.

PIANOFORTES EXTRAORDINARY.—At

MOORE and MOORE'S, 104, Bishopsgate-street, Within. These are first-class Pianos, of rare excellence possessing exquisite improvements, recently applied which effect a grand and beautiful quality of tone that is unobtainable elsewhere. Price, from 41 Guineas. First-class Pianos for hire, with easy terms of purchase.

TOLKIEN'S 25-GUINEA ROYAL MINUTO

PIANOFORTES, 61 octaves.—If, the original Maker of a Twenty-five Guinea Pianoforte, has by the care he has devoted to all branches of the manufacture, obtained the highest reputation throughout the universe for his instruments, unequalled in durability and delicacy of touch, more especially for their excellence in standing in tune in the various climates of our colonies. In elegant walnut, rosewood, and mahogany cases, packed against for £2 10s. extra. TOLKIEN'S Manufactory, 27, 28, and 29, King-William-street, London-bridge.—PIANOFORTES FOR HIRE.

THE ALEXANDRE HARMONIUM

AT SIX GUINEAS.

ALEXANDRE and SON have made this Harmonium at the lowest price possible, to bring the instrument within the means of all classes. It is in an Oak Case, with Four Octaves, is alike calculated for Private Houses and for Churches, and is

INDISPENSABLE TO THE SCHOOL-ROOM.

The Six-Guinea Harmonium will be taken in exchange for any of the more expensive descriptions, without loss or disadvantage to the purchaser. Alexandre and Son obtained the Silver Medal of Honour at the Great Exhibition at Paris, 1855. Their Harmoniums have been pronounced the best by Russell, Auber, Adam, Thalberg, Liszt, &c., and by the Professors of the Conservatoire de Paris.

The more expensive Harmoniums range from 10 to 55 guineas. These are brought to the greatest perfection, and are equally adapted to the

CHURCH or DRAWING-



"UNDER GREEN LEAVES;"—LULLINGSWORTH

DRAWN BY S. READ.

It is an ancient house:
 Four hundred years ago
 Men dug its basements deep,
 And roof'd it from the wind;
 And held within its walls
 The joyous marriage feast,
 The christening, and the dance.
 Four hundred years ago
 They scoop'd and fill'd the moat,
 Where now the rank weeds grow,
 And waterlilies vie
 In whiteness with the swans—
 A solitary pair—
 That float, and feed, and float,
 Beneath the crumbling bridge
 And past the garden wall.

Four hundred years ago
 They planted trees around

To shield it from the sun;
 And still these oaks and elms,
 The patriarchs of the wold,
 Extend their sturdy boughs
 To woo the summer breeze.
 The old house, ivy-grown—
 Red, green, and mossy grey—
 Still lifts its gables quaint;
 And in the evening sun
 Its windows, as of yore,
 Still gleam with ruddy light
 Reflected from the west.

Still underneath the eaves,
 Or rafters of the porch,
 The glancing swallow builds;
 Still through its chimneys tall
 Upstreams the curling smoke
 From solitary fires,—

For still the ancient race
 Live in the ancient home,
 But of their glory shorn,
 And hastening to decay.

No children in its courts
 Carol, like happy birds,
 The livelong summerday.
 No maidens with blue eyes
 Dream of the trysting hour,
 Or bridal's happier time.
 No youths with glowing hearts
 Muse, in its shady walks,
 Of high heroic deeds,
 Or glory to be sought
 In perilous fields of fame.

The very dog is mute,
 And slumbers on the hearth,
 Too impotent to bark.
 The cawing rooks alone
 Maintain the song of life,
 And prate amid the elms
 With harsh rough colloquy—
 A music in itself,
 Or, if not music, joy.

[The preceding lines from the poem entitled "Lullingsworth"—which has suggested to Mr. S. Read the beautiful design which we have this week engraved—are extracted from the new volume of poems by Charles Mackay, with the suggestive and pleasant title of "Under Green Leaves."]

MASTER WALTER, THE PHYSICIAN. A TALE OF OLD LONDON.

It was on a Sunday afternoon, in the summer of the year 1264, and during our third Henry's reign, that the Rabbi Elias, and his daughter Muriel, sat in an upper chamber of their house in Coleman-street. The Rabbi was not only Presbyter (or, as he was more commonly called in the legal instruments of the day, Episcopus of all the Jews of England), but Registrar of the Chirographs of the Jews of London—that is, of all bonds, deeds, and notes of hand, which had passed from Christians to Jews in return for loans, the faithful record of which, as kept by the Rabbi Elias and his brother chirographers, served as a register of the property of the Jews, and as a guide to the Monarch, when he wished to impose a tallage upon their wealthy race; and, in order to ensure the registration of such property, it was enacted that no bond or deed should be received as valid unless it had been registered.

Had the wealth of the Rabbi Elias been at all commensurate with the importance of his offices, or with the esteem in which he was held by his people, his house would have displayed something more than the plain though neat and scrupulously clean furniture with which it was rather sparingly provided. For there was a strength and solidity in the houses of the Jews, as well in London as in every other large town throughout the land, which presented a strong contrast to the frailty of the crumbling wooden tenements in which many even of the wealthiest of the Christian burghers dwelt; and which, if by good fortune they escaped the frequent fires to which the City was exposed, were pretty sure to fall victims to another element, and terminate their precarious existence in a storm. Any one who had compared the handsome stone edifices in the Jewry (that tract of the City which was bounded by the Wallbrook and Milk-street on the east and west, and by Cheap and the City wall on the south and north) with most of the dwellings in the other parts of the town, would assuredly have come to the conclusion that the Christian owners of these last were the perpetual wanderers through the dreary wilderness of the world—the restless pilgrims, who cared not to build for their brief sojourn any dwelling more durable than a tent; and that the Jews, who had constructed such solid and substantial habitations, were the real lords of the soil, certain of their peaceful settlement in the land, and free from all apprehension of disturbance or change. True it is that the wisdom of Fitz-Alwin, the first Mayor of London, had devised a scheme to tempt and persuade the citizens into the use of stone in the construction of their dwellings; but the public disturbances of many succeeding years furnished the too conservative Londoners with an excuse for persistence in their long-cherished customs; and they were never well provided with stone houses until the reign of Edward I., when the banishment of the Jews, and the confiscation of their property, supplied the Christians with excellent buildings at the lowest possible cost. Nor was the furniture of these Jewish houses at all inferior to their external appearance. It was not only that the rude bench, which contented the free citizen, was covered with silken cushions by those who were so contemptuously styled the “King’s Chattels;” or that, while the burgher, so tenacious of his charters and liberties, drank from the hooped pot, or not too highly-polished horn, the outcast had his vessels of silver and his vessels of gold. There were signs of refinement, as well as of wealth, in the dwellings of the Jew—plain marks of a better breeding, proofs that the owners were conscious of a higher lineage than their oppressors could boast, and of an intellectual training such as few Christians had undergone; and many evidences of their commerce with that sunny land of Spain, amongst whose olive groves, and vineyards, burning plains, steep hills, and fertile vales, they had for a time realised the traditional beauty and fertility of the Palestine which their fathers had lost. Thence they had brought with them Moorish water-coolers, which were all but useless in this cold northern climate; thence came the skill to trace the delicate arabesques with which their rooms were decorated; thence came the mantilla and the rebozo, in which the Jewish women veiled their charms from the public eye; thence, too, they had brought the courtly phrases—the perhaps somewhat inflated tone of their conversation, and many of the quaintly-compounded proper names, which had replaced, in a great measure, the old Hebrew appellations.

But the house of the Rabbi Elias was an exception to the general rule. He had, indeed, inherited from his father a considerable property; but he was unskilled in worldly matters, and, shortly after his father's death, lent out almost the whole of his fortune to one nobleman, though it was customary with his race to avoid any such imprudent venture as the setting of so large a stake upon a single cast. The result was peculiarly unfortunate for Elias; since his debtor, finding that the interest on his debt to the Jew was swallowing up the whole of his yearly revenues, made interest with the King to have the obligations which he had given to the Jew cancelled.

The chamber in which the Rabbi and his daughter were seated on the afternoon which I have selected for the commencement of this history was their study and library, if in such an age any room could lay claim to so dignified a title. Dear as manuscripts were in those days, the Rabbi had managed to retain many of these treasures, which he had purchased ere his fortune waned. Greek, Hebrew, Latin, and Arabic manuscripts were piled in confusion on the shelves and presses of the Rabbi Elias. There stood Aristotle and his Arabian commentators; there Plato, dear for his dreamy mysticism to the Oriental mind; there Seneca, in whom the Rabbi loved to trace glimmerings of the light which beamed so divinely in the Scriptures of his people; there Josephus, whom the Rabbi loved not, and declared to have been half a Pagan at heart; there the medical and astronomical treatises of the Cordovan sages; there, too, the theological puzzle of the Hebrew doctors, wherein the old priest would wander for day without a clue, pleased with his own entanglement, and for ever confident of finally discovering truth, by seeking her at the bottom of that deepest and darkest of wells whence the great Hebrew commentators had loved to drink.

Other volumes there were which, as Lord Bacon says, “would have come home to the business and bosoms of general readers” with far greater force than the works which I have specified. These were the Registers, in which the obligations of the Christians to the Jews were recorded. What suggestive volumes were they! and how many tales could they have told of lordly patrimonies bartered for the pleasures of a year; of noble families bankrupt in wealth and honour!

But the book which most engrossed the old Rabbi's time and attention, and that which lay open before him, as he now sat in his study, was a goodly folio, in which, in small, neat characters, he wrote, day by day, his great history of the Tribulations of Judah. Distressing as the events recorded in it must have been to every Jew (for it told of the sufferings of the exiled race from the destruction of Jerusalem down to the author's own time), it is not too much to say, that his happiest hours were spent in the composition of this elaborate work. The exultation of the author triumphed over the grief of the patriot; and, when he brought down his work to the period of the massacre at York, and had to record that his own parents were amongst its victims, he quite consoled himself for their untimely fate by handing it down to

posterity in the most eloquent and sonorous terms at his command. Indeed, he was always most happy in his diction when he had the greatest atrocities to record; and “the most terrible truths” came “mended from his pen.”

Muriel, who found these dreadful descriptions not much to her taste, was wont to chide him in her playful way, and to tell him that his history of the sufferings of his race would cause more misery to those who came after him than the cruelties described by him had inflicted on their forefathers. “I would rather have on my conscience,” she would say, “the deaths of all those who died in the Castle of York, than the tears which thy description of the massacre will wring from millions yet unborn.”

But the chronicler was so well pleased with the prospect of causing the “millions yet unborn to weep,” that his daughter's ill-timed remonstrance only induced him to add a few more pathetic touches to the already harrowing recital.

I do not know why Muriel was more admired by her people than the other daughters of her race—for there were many more beautiful; unless it were that her beauty was of a kind not common with the women of her nation. She had, indeed, the full dark eye of her race, but not the olive complexion. She had the lofty brow, but not the raven hair peculiar to the Jewish maiden. Tasso might have said of her—

That on her shoulders fell her yellow locks
Like golden gleams on alabaster rocks.

Her nose was straight and gentle-looking, whilst those of her companions were as curved and as dangerous as scimitars; and her hand—but why should I dwell upon charms, which, after all, were the least of her attractions? How many pages of her father's cherished volume were devoted to her! How touchingly did he record that, when his wife had left him to bear alone the burden of his poverty, he took his little daughter from her Christian nurse, and wept over the babe for a season! How often in the history of after years did the words, “then the Rabbi Elias came home unto Muriel, and she said unto him words of comfort,” follow close upon the recital of the indignities to which he, like every other Jew, was so frequently exposed! How often, when he wrote down his gloomy fears for the future of his people, and put on record his confident anticipations of their banishment from England, did he add, “therefore the Rabbi Elias trembled for Muriel even for the darling of his old age, and wished that God had not made her so tender and so beautiful!”

And, when I take in hand that old chronicle, the most precious of all the manuscripts I possess, I read the daughter's beauty by the light of the father's love, and she rises up before me, together with the old man whose later pages she inspired. I see the room with its ancient and well-worn furniture; the brass-bound books are plainer to me than my own library; the Rabbi's table is somewhat in shadow, and I cannot see his features quite distinctly, but I have a notion that he is writing one of his most laboured descriptions. I think that his cheek flushes, that his eye kindles, and that his breathing grows more rapid with the increasing speed of his pen. And Muriel sits nearer to the casement, and the sun, as it gleams through the lezenges of golden glass, falls on her fair face and golden hair, and there is such an aureole around her as the pictured angels are wont to have who sit near to St. Jerome, and minister to him as he writes.

It was a pity that any cloud should have come between the sun and her beauty; but that long, black, straggling, evil-looking cloud, which now darkened the little casement, and called itself Master Walter, the physician, was, of all others, that which her well-wishers would have been least pleased to see there. While Elias was alternately writing and reading his choicest passages to his daughter, they had been startled by a loud knocking at the outer door.

Master Elias, who was of a highly speculative turn of mind, had indulged in a variety of hypotheses as to the owner of the hand which was then hammering so lustily at the gate, and Muriel declared that the knock was not her cousin's knock, whereat her father was not a little astonished. Muriel only laughed: her Cousin Cressy, she said, knocked with a sharp quick stroke, as a man did who was sure of a welcome; whereas the present knock was long-drawn and hesitating, as if he who knocked were pausing to consider what he should do when the door was opened. As she spoke, something was heard to wriggle up the stairs, and the door opened to admit Master Walter, the physician.

It would have puzzled any body to decide whether he was most remarkable for his extreme height, or his conspicuous leanness. Either quality must singly have sufficed to make him the object of general attention wherever he went; but, when, combined in one man, and exaggerated to the eye by the long, shapeless, black tunic, which reached from his neck to his feet, they filled every beholder with a wonder, not unmingled with fear, lest a creature of such extreme tenuity should be snapped in twain by the wind. His shaven crown bespoke him in religious orders, and, indeed, there were at that time few, besides the clergy, who pretended to practise the art of healing.

It did not take the Rabbi and his daughter very long to note these peculiarities of their guest, for his visits at their house, which were always to one and the same intent, had of late been frequent. The medical knowledge of the Jews at that time was really considerable; but it gained so much by a comparison with the information possessed by Christian physicians, as to be held in a far higher estimation than it deserved. Master Walter, who, if he kept his patients in health at all, must have done it by his “magique naturel” (for other lore he had none), was filled with a burning desire to share in the wisdom which he believed the Jews to possess, and the very smallest modicum of which would be sufficient, as he well knew, to establish his fame and fortune; and Muriel was reputed to have a greater skill than even the far-famed Rebecca of York. He knew, too, that her reputation was not unfounded, for she had often ministered to the sick poor of the Christian community; and had done his best, then, to cultivate an acquaintance with her, in the hope that she might impart some of her secrets to him; but he had never, as yet, ventured to ask directly for any information. His character was well known both to the father and daughter, and so ill did they think of him, that they could scarcely bring themselves to treat him with the courtesy due to a guest.

“Might he know,” the Rabbi asked, “why his poor dwelling was honoured by a visit from a Christian leech on a day which Christians usually employed in learning the extent of their obligations to Jews, and studying how best to requite them with ingratitude?”

Master Walter knew not well what to make of this speech, for his idea of an obligation to Jews was limited to certain chirographs, wherein he had acknowledged himself a debtor to sundry of the race, and he therefore concluded that the Rabbi was availing himself of the information which the registers afforded, to twist him with these little liabilities, “The worthy Episcopus,” he said (for he never spared to employ titles as the cheapest possible means of propitiation)—“the worthy Episcopus was mistaken; he had had no leisure to think of his worldly affairs (much less to meditate the repudiation of his just debts, albeit the interest was most exorbitant), since he had been employed exclusively in ministering to the sick. He was, indeed, in the habit of witnessing very painful scenes; he had at the present time a patient,

even one stricken with the summer fever, whom it was sad to behold; and his motive for visiting them was to inform Muriel of the case. She had some knowledge of such matters, and would, doubtless, be interested to know that the fever had appeared so early in the season.”

Muriel said she was already aware of its appearance. She had visited one stricken with the fever.

“The leech was astounded, delighted, grieved, all at once. He did not think there had been another case. He was glad that Muriel could compare notes with him. He was sorry that he had not gone with her to her patient, as he might have shown her how to bring him through. It would have been of service to her to see how a professed physician dealt with the sick.”

The old Rabbi, who thought that his daughter knew more than the Angel of Healing, fell blindfold into the trap. “Did the leech think that he could teach Muriel to cure a fever, when she, by merely giving a scruple of —”

A slight cough from Muriel checked him, and he gulped down the names he was about to utter, to the infinite mortification of Master Walter.

“Master Walter was right,” said Muriel, in her silvery tones; “she did wish to know somewhat of his art. She had often wished to inquire of his patients concerning him; but, somehow, they all died before she could get speech of them.”

The leech strove hard to maintain his equanimity.

“Mistress Muriel was pleased to jest,” he said, “for she well knew that all his patients did not die; there was Hobbe Lok, the sexton to St. Michael Paternoster Church, whom he had attended for the ague in the last fall. Hobbe Lok could now dig a grave with any man of his inches.”

“Indeed!” Muriel said, “that must be a great happiness for Master Walter, who had occasion for so many graves. He could have better spared a better man than Hobbe Lok, no doubt.”

The baffled physician bethought him of another course. “He had,” said he, “concealed the real object of his visit from them out of deference to their feelings; but, since they did but jest with him, his duty to his patient compelled him to speak out. They did not know perhaps, that the King's Majesty had made him physician to his lately-erected house for converted Jews. Well, then, the patient he had spoken of lay sick in that house, else he had never come to them for advice.”

The Rabbi Elias caught from the shelf the most ponderous of the registers, and, poising it in the air, displayed its formidable array of brazen bosses to the affrighted leech. “Talk not to me,” shouted the old Jew, “of thy patients! Thinkest thou that the chief priest of his people will interfere to save the miserable bodies of those whose souls have already perished from before the face of their God? Away, wretch! and do thy work; for, know that I would smite thee even now, did I not know that thou art but the minister of the Destroying Angel who will employ thy ignorance to root out those wretched apostates from the earth.”

Master Walter descended the stairs with an inconceivable rapidity; but, while he fumbled, in his fright, at the fastening of the door, Muriel laid her hand upon his shoulder, and said, as she put a packet into his hand. “I am not quite of my father's opinion, sir leech. He would have you poor outcasts die, that they sin no more; I would have them live, that they may repent of having sinned. That your patient may not want such opportunity, give him of the powder in this packet. You will find directions within, and may his gratitude at the escape from the great peril of thy ministrations help to turn him from the error of his ways.”

“Beshrew me!” said the perplexed leech, as he walked hastily away “now am I in this dilemma, that I know not whether this accursed Jewess hath given me a healing drug; or some deadly poison, that she may be revenged on this imaginary convert from her laws. I dare not administer it to any noble or wealthy citizen. Stay! I have it! the old ankeresse in the Smethefelde told me, but three days ago, that her son lay ill of this very fever, and prayed me to visit him. I cared not then to do as she asked, but I will go now, and try the drug on him; in he lives, I shall get great credit, for his mother is known to all in this city; and, an he dies, it will be the fault of Mistress Muriel alone!” and, so saying, the leech turned his steps towards the Smethefelde.

“Father,” said Muriel, when she had returned to the indignant Rabbi, “I have to visit the sick mariner, of whom I spake to thee, and other sick persons, also, if it shall please thee to let me go.” “Go! go! my daughter,” said her father, “and let these Christians learn from thee what wisdom is in God's chosen people, even in this latter time of our trouble. As for me, I will write of ‘the tribulations of Judah,’ until the going down of the sun.”

The Smethefelde was thronged, that afternoon, with groups of citizens, who had brought out their wives and children, to enjoy a walk through the pleasant pastures that skirted Turnmill Brook (see Engraving). Wherever the eye roved over those grassy meadows (wherein grazed the cattle of the canons of St. Bartholomew, of the Hospitalers, and of the nuns of Clerkenwell priory), it fell upon gay and varied dresses. The more old-fashioned of the citizenesses adhered to the green kirtle, which had been common since the Conquest; but there were many who aped the increasing extravagance of the nobility, and figured in tunics of blue or crimson. Perhaps, however, the cloth stockings of the ladies displayed the greatest variety of colour, and as the dress did not reach to the ankle, the spectators, who viewed the great parti-coloured multitude of feet from a distance, might have imagined the meadows to be enamelled with a vast variety of flowers. Dotted about amongst the gayer dresses of the wealthier citizens, might be seen the russet coats and peaked cowls of the mechanics, and the bliaus (the progenitors of the modern smock frocks) of the agricultural labourers. Nor did the black vestments of the Dominicans, and the grey robes of the Franciscans—numbers of whom might be seen crossing the field in every direction—impair the effect of a picture, the otherwise excessive brilliancy of which they softened and relieved.

The characters of the assembled persons were as various as their dresses. Here swaggered Stéphen Buckereel, the champion of the civic mob. Had he not led them forth, first to Isleworth, where they burnt the palace of the King's brother, and afterwards to the field of battle at Lewes, which, however, they quitted rather precipitately at the beginning of the fray, leaving De Montfort to fight and cover without them? Nevertheless Master Stephen swaggered and sang with a truculent jollity the ballad composed in honour of that memorable fight. Swagger and sing thy best, Master Stephen, for De Montfort's career is drawing to a close, and thou must soon select a different exercise for thy lungs. There, Master Simon Fitz-Mary and Master Ralph, of the Oyster-gate, discussed the recently-mooted proposition, that the Hustings Court should abandon its long-established usage, and sit in harvest time. Master Simon thought the project bad, and said, by his troth, that if the magnates of the City were hearing pleas in Court, they could not be gathering in their corn; and that it would be a pity either that they should neglect their duties for the sake of their crops, or lose their crops through their attention to their duties—of which two evils one must infallibly result from the adoption of the new plan. And, in good

faith, when I consider the matter, I cannot think that Master Simon was far wrong.

And there were Master Arnold Thedmar, and his friend Gerard of Antioch, foreigners by birth, but naturalised citizens of London, conversing of the plea which the Abbot of Waltham had against the citizens for the stallage of their horses at Waltham fair; and there were many of De Montfort's party talking in a loud voice; and there were many of the King's friends whispering very quietly, whence you will argue justly that De Montfort's star was in the ascendant.

And, moreover, there was an innumerable company of women, whose conversation it were vain to describe, otherwise than by saying that it had neither beginning, middle, nor end, theme nor purpose, meaning nor use, and contained nothing worthy of opposition, or approbation, or of momentary attention, or of mature reflection, or indeed of any notice whatever. Still it was pleasant to hear them babble, just as it was pleasant to hear the birds sing; for though there was no more articulate meaning in the chat than in the song, a boundless cheerfulness, and a fulness of delight in that sweet season, and that balmy evening, had given birth to both. After all, too, your empty vessel always rings most musically.

Some way up Turnmill-brook, and at the spot now known as Cow-cross, stood the hermitage of Dame Katherine Hirdel, the ankeresse. In a month before the evening of which I am writing, any one had informed her—ex-Mayoress of London, saint *in posse*, and penitent *in esse*, of the Blessed Father Dominic of Vienne—that, on a given Sunday evening, a Jewess would be a welcome guest in her hermitage; she would have taken her rosary and banged it about the ears of that highly ridiculous prophet. But the good lady was a mother before she became an ankeresse. Her worthy husband, Master William Hirdel, Mayor of London during that troubled year in which the barons fortified the city against King John, had spent his money so freely in his attempt to advance the people's cause, that on his retirement from the Mayoralty and a troubled world, he was only able to bequeath to his widow one son and 80 marks of silver. The good Katherine had employed half of the money in purchasing for her son a share in a vessel, which traded between London and Bordeaux, and on board of which he had lived ever since his father's death. By judiciously distributing the other half amongst the proper officers, she had obtained from the King the grant of forty feet of land in the Smethefelde, whereon some of the citizens, who had profited by her husband's hospitality, had built her a little hermitage. Her few wants were supplied by the charity of similar friends, and her life passed away quietly enough, its tranquillity being broken only by the visits which her son paid her whenever his ship was in the river. During his last visit to London he had contracted a dangerous fever, and it was he whom our friend, Master Walter, had originally declined to see, but was now preparing to visit. On the very day, however, on which he had refused to lend his valuable services, Muriel, passing near to the widow's cell, had seen her weeping bitterly at the door. The desire to relieve a sufferer followed, with Muriel, close upon the sight of one; and she immediately inquired of the ankeresse concerning the cause of her trouble. Dame Katherine, who at another moment would have spurned the Jewess from her door, knew not, at the time, whether she spoke to Jew or Christian.

Blinded by her tears, she sobbed out that her son was dying; and, upon being further questioned, said that he was lodged in a cottage on the manor of Blemundesmed, out beyond the head of the Holebourne. My readers will readily understand that Muriel hastened to give him the drug about whose properties Master Walter was so anxious when we left him. Her efforts had been attended with complete success; and each succeeding visit which she paid to the cell of the ankeresse had carried an increased joy and hope to the heart of the mother. It was a dreadful shock to the ankeresse when she discovered that her benefactress was one whose name she dared not mention to the Blessed Father Dominic of Vienne. Happily that keeper of her conscience did not visit her for some days; for his occupation of begging friar necessarily made him rather a free liver, as his ministrations were generally paid in kind; and his laudable endeavours to eat all that was bestowed upon him had brought on a morbid on his shin, which had confined him to his convent. And, somehow, during his absence, Muriel's name had found its way into the widow's prayers, which we will hope did her rather more good than if it had been told to the Blessed Father Dominic.

And thus it was that, when Master Walter had wriggled up to the hermitage with the design heretofore ascribed to him, he heard voices within, whereof one had a familiar sound. Then, by twisting his long neck and body judiciously, he managed to peep into the cell, and, to his surprise, discovered Muriel. From her conversation with the ankeresse, he managed to learn, not only why she was there, but that she had cured the sick mariner with the drug, of which he had a portion in his pouch; and, as this was all he cared to know, he glided away again as noiselessly as a long, lean, black, and venomous snake.

And now, as Muriel comes out of the cell, and will not let the ankeresse accompany her, because the evening air is cold, who is it that steps from behind the cell and draws near to her side? Is it another victim of the prevailing fever? I should not guess his malady from his looks, certainly; for his walk is rapid and easy, his cheek is flushed, and his eye is bright with health. But there is a fever in his veins, too, and his pulse beats faster than healthy pulses do, as he takes her little hand in his; and the words "Cressy!" "Muriel!" "Dearest wife!" "My own husband!" are murmured in low, thrilling whisps.

The old ankeresse has laid down upon her pallet; the citizens and their wives have gotten them home to their evening meal; the rooks have all settled down in their nests on the tall trees that encircle the Priory of St. Bartholomew; and the moon, shining into a casement in Coleman-street, silvers over the hair and beard of the old Rabbi, yet Muriel is still abroad *visiting the sick*.

Worthy and philosophical, but happy, credulous Elias. I will take to me thy cherished manuscript, and search for the paragraph which thou didst indite on that calm summer evening, by the light of the bright moon, and of thy glimmering wisdom:—

"And it came to pass, when the Gentile leech had departed, with death and desolation attending upon him, that the daughter of the Rabbi Elias went forth to heal the sick. And lo! she tarried long; so that the Rabbi said, 'Verily the sickness must have increased in this city;' and besought God that his daughter might take no harm. And behold! when she came in, her eyes were red with weeping. And her father questioned her not; for he said, 'Surely she has seen much sickness, and the recollection of it lies heavy on her soul.' And he kissed her on the cheek, and said, 'May the blessing of the God of thy fathers be upon thee, O, my daughter!' And she left him, and went into her chamber, weeping as she went."

CHAPTER II.

THE young Cressy, whose maladies, as we have seen, detained Muriel so long from her home, and caused her so much anxiety, was the son of her father's brother Hagen—the richest, and the least popular of his race, but a special favourite with the Royal family.

Elias had long separated himself entirely from the company of his brother, whom he regarded as a traitor to the cause of their nation. Had he not employed his influence with the King to obtain a grant of the houses and effects of Benedict, of Milk-street, when that choleric Hebrew, having slain a Christian, "*quodam anelacio*," as the chronicle says, "in vico de Colecherche," was forced to fly beyond the seas? Had not Hagen withheld from the distressed family of Benedict even the smallest portion of the confiscated property, though he could well have afforded to endow them with the whole of it? Further, had not this same Hagen declined to interfere when the King's cheap generosity to the Earl Warenne had made Elias poor? Nay, it was even rumoured that he had taken money of the Christian noble, and consented, for that base consideration, to look on silently while they despoiled his brother. Nor did Hagen entertain a much more favourable opinion of his brother, though his dislike was based on different grounds. He thought him a mere dreamer—a purblind dotard—who loved better to chronicle the cruelties inflicted by the Christians on his race, than to avenge himself by spoiling the Egyptians in the way of business. Above all, he deemed him poor; and, as all these opinions were warranted by fact, and as the Rabbi would have taken no pains to refute them in any case, the two brothers, whose houses were separated only by a street, and who met almost every day, always passed each other, without any attempt on either side to put an end to their estrangement. Cressy, however, did not share his father's dislike of Elias; but then his father did not know Muriel; and it must be clear to all, that the young man's knowledge of the daughter would give him a great insight into her father's character. How should we know a tree, except by its fruits? And, in Cressy's estimation, the tree which had produced so fair a blossom as Muriel must be sound and good from its root to its topmost twig.

Elias, as we have seen ere this, thought Cressy a good listener, and an excellent judge of composition. He could only have inferred his ability to act in the latter from his frequent appearance in the former capacity; for the young man seldom offered any critical commentary on his uncle's writings; but his power of concentrating his attention was something marvellous. It must have been an hereditary quality, I think, for Muriel possessed it in an equal degree; and they would sit through the whole evening, while the old man read aloud, without even so much as interrupting him by a sound. Nay, so wrapt were they, that, lest they should fall into a trance akin to that which an Indian yogi induces, by close meditation, they were forced to clasp each other's hands very tightly, and thus bind themselves down to the world, above which the Rabbi's somewhat inflated paragraphs would otherwise have carried them. We have heard them address each other as husband and wife; but of this relationship neither Hagen nor Elias had the smallest possible suspicion. Hagen had other views for his son, and would have opposed their union with his whole influence; and Elias, though very well disposed towards Cressy, was too poor to pay the fine which the King invariably exacted of every Jew or Jewess before he granted him or her license to marry. These fines were always considerable; and a man in the station of our Rabbi would have been called upon to pay at least a thousand marks.

When, therefore, during one of those periodical journeys throughout the land, which "our trusty and well-beloved Elias, Bishop of all the Jews of England," was wont to make, his daughter and nephew solemnly betrothed themselves before the deputy, whom he was empowered by Royal authority to leave in his place. They did not think it necessary to inform him of a fact, the knowledge of which might some day be imputed to him as a fault; and, as the deputy died before the return of his principal, he had no opportunity of informing him how very satisfactorily he had filled his place. Married the lovers were not yet; but their betrothal deprived them of the power of marrying any one else; and they were so happy in having thus attained to what may be called the negative advantage of matrimony, that they were content to postpone the fruition of positive happiness until better days should come.

It was on her way to meet Cressy by Turnmill-brook that Muriel had paused to ask the cause of Dame Katherine's grief; and, though the good ankeresse was then prevented by her tears from seeing the handsome young man who was lounging about near her cell, she caught so many glimpses of him during Muriel's subsequent visits to her, that she began to suspect there must be a relation of cause and effect subsisting between two such good-looking apparitions. And when, by dint of sly and pertinacious inquiry, she had succeeded in eliciting the whole truth, she was so delighted at finding that the Jews were, after all, so very like to Christians, that the Blessed Dominic of Vienne had no farther chance of ousting Muriel from her affections. "Why, Cressy, and Muriel had done what her boy Randolph and Mistress Maude of the Oyster-gate, the pretty daughter of old Ralph of that ilk, would fain do if they had not the fear of Mistress Maude's father before their eyes. Yea, and she had had lovers too; though she asked pardon of St. Werburgh, and St. Botolph, and St. Ethelburga, and St. Thomas of Acons, for remembering that she had ever been aught but a grey gown full of dried skin and bones. And she would warrant, now, that would she, that Muriel had some love-token about her; such, for instance, as her own gold crucifix, which her husband (and it was no sin to remember one's husband, though many widows acted as if it were) gave her at their troth-plighting, and which she always wore under her robe, and fastened to her neck by the very lace which her husband had tied upon it."

So, though she could not allow any man but her confessor to come within her hermitage, she was pleased enough that Muriel should meet her lover near it; and it therefore became their usual trysting-place.

Master Walter, who had used the contents of Muriel's packet in many cases of fever during the two months which we must suppose to have elapsed since she gave it to him, had found its healing powers to exceed even his warmest anticipations, and was, consequently, more than ever anxious to become acquainted with the name and nature of the drug. He had made several attempts to glean this information from Muriel and her father, but his efforts had uniformly failed. The fever was increasing in the City, his packet was quite exhausted, and his natural desire for money was considerably heightened by the pressure of debts, contracted at an exorbitant rate of interest; for Master Walter had his secret pleasures, and had long been in the habit of spending a great deal more than he earned. In this dilemma he bethought him that Muriel had healed the widow's son with the identical drug, a knowledge of which he coveted so anxiously. She might have, perhaps, imparted its name to her patient or his mother; and, full of this not very rational idea, he determined to visit the ankeresse, and elicit from her, by well-put questions, all that she knew.

It was a fine warm morning, as he walked across the meadow that lay between the Hospital of Rahere and Dame Hirdel's hermitage. The ankeresse was not, according to custom, at the door of her cell; and, when the leech called her by name, he received no answer. He entered the cell; but its inmate was no longer in a condition to repel his intrusion with the indignation which the entry of a man into that virtuous retreat would at another time have excited. The poor ankeresse had been stricken by paralysis that morning, and lay on her pallet cold in death. He approached the couch, and, carelessly lifting

the loose robe of grey serge in which the shrunken form of the ankeresse was enveloped, was attracted by the glitter of gold. It was the long-treasured crucifix.

He looked for a knife; but could find nothing, whether blunt or sharp. In sheer despair—for he heard the sound of approaching footsteps—he took the lace in both hands and broke it off close to the neck of the corpse. Then, hastily thrusting the crucifix into the bosom of his dress, he strode from the hermitage; but had not gone ten yards from the door, when Muriel passed him on her way thither. The leech paused for a moment, as if he would speak; but suddenly changed his mind, and resumed his rapid progress towards the town; and, a few minutes afterwards, might have been seen talking with the sokenreeve of St. Bartholomew's Priory, who was holding a plough awhile that morning, to see if he could drive as straight a furrow as he had been wont in his youth.

Muriel entered the cell, and was much shocked to find that the friend to whom she had gradually become so much attached had passed away without a parting word. The bareness of the cell was not lost upon her; and when, on introducing her hand within the robe of the ankeresse, to try if the heart had quite ceased to beat, she found that the crucifix was gone, and that the lace by which it hung had been broken, she at once concluded that the leech had been busy with the property of the dead. But, while she meditated rather sorrowfully on this, a rough hand was laid on her shoulder; and, in another moment, she was dragged out of the cell by the sokenreeve of St. Bartholomew, who had stolen upon her unobserved.

"Hilloa! my mates all," cried he to some agricultural labourers, who were passing, "this accursed Jewess hath done to death the good old ankeresse here! A rope and a stone for her, say I, and let us sink her in Turnmill-brook. I warrant me, St. Bartholomew will send us water enough to drown so foul a murderess, though it be the shallow season now."

The men came at his call; and Muriel, struggling vainly in their grasp, was dragged onwards towards the brook; but, at that crisis, Cressy and another young man, who had approached from opposite directions, rushed up to her aid. Cressy caught her in his arms, and dealt two or three such blows at those who had been holding her as made them glad to leave her; whilst the other, running full butt against the sokenreeve, tumbled him into the brook for which he had destined Muriel.

Cressy spoke not at all; but the other, after lending a hand to pull the sokenreeve out of the water, exclaimed, "Why! how now, my masters, would you drown the best leech in Christendom? I will be sworn that none of you have suffered from the fever, of which she cured me, or you would know better than to take the life of one who can cure it."

"Nay! but, Master Randolph," said the sokenreeve, who was somewhat cooled by his bath, "this Jewess has slain your mother, who lies dead in yonder cell."

The young man staggered back, and rushed into the cell. He returned after a time, with a grave pale face, and said, "My poor mother is, indeed, dead; but I will be sworn that my good physician had no hand in her death, and you shall lay no hand upon her while I stand by."

"But, my masters," said a short, fat, man, who had joined the group, "methinks this is not a question to be decided on in an instant, in the open field. Shall not the Sheriff's know of this? Ay, marry! and that shall they, seeing that I am one of them. Wherefore, I cite all parties to my court, in Cornhill."

As the captors of Muriel moved off with her, in obedience to the Sheriff's orders, the widow's son muttered, "Ay! go thy way, Master Ralph of the Oyster-gate, for a big-speaking man as thou art. But I will go down into the City, where, it may be, I shall find some one who will have wit enough to make thee give a just decision in this matter."

Sheriff Ralph, of the Oyster-gate, was indeed a big-speaking man. Probably such big words never before or since proceeded from so little a body, for he was not over five feet in height; and then he spoke with a volume of sound that would have suited a Colbrand or Ascapard, and with the fire and energy of a Lancelot or a Gawaine. It was a grand treat, I promise you, for the citizens when he made an oration. He raised himself on his toes, and half-closed his eyes, as a cock does in the act of crowing; and his little flaxen curls danced about his ears with the violence of his gestures; and his flexible nose curled up, and up, and up, as though it, too, were fascinated by his words, and wished to soar after them.

But Master Ralph, though such a son of thunder on the hustings, was tame enough in his own parlour. Pretty Mistress Maude, the loud-spoken Sheriff's daughter, not only knew him to be only a little fat man, but remembered that her mother, who had been dead some years, regarded him much in the same light, and took no more heed of his powerful speech than of the kitten's mew. So Mistress Maude kept a tight hand upon him, and daily laboured to bring him into such a docile frame of mind as should permit her to communicate to him her fixed intention of marrying young Randolph Hirdel. Therefore, when Randolph came to tell her that the good Jewess who had saved him from the fever was in peril of her father's court, she called for her wimple without delay, and set off for Cornhill, where, hard by our Pope's-Head-alley, the Sheriff's held their court.

The Sheriff and his prisoner had already arrived; and, as the rumour that the old ankeresse had been murdered by a Jewess had spread through the City, a vast crowd had collected to learn the result of her examination by the Sheriff. Maude, however, contrived to get into court by a side door, which led her into a part of the room that was screened from the rest by a crimson curtain. The Sheriff's chair was placed in front of this curtain, the use of which was to conceal any powerful persons who might possess an influence with the Court, and might wish to exercise it in secret. There was a chair placed behind it, close to that of the Sheriff, and in this chair Maude placed herself to bide her time. When she arrived, all the evidence against Muriel, which was limited to the fact of her being found by the dead body of the ankeresse, had been laid before the Court, and the Sheriff had called upon her for her defence. Meanwhile, Muriel, casting her eyes round the court, had perceived the long body of the leech, who had come to witness, as he thought, her condemnation. In his struggle through the crowd the bosom of his gown had been somewhat disarranged, and a piece of blue lace, which was apparently attached to something within the gown, was hanging on his breast. Muriel formed her plan in an instant.

"I have to say, most excellent Sheriff," began she, in low clear tones, that went to the heart of the listener behind the curtain, "I have to say that not only am I innocent of this imputed murder, but that, as I believe, no murder has been committed. I went to visit the ankeresse, as was my wont, for I had rendered some service to her son, and she loved me therefore. I found her dead, as Master Walter, the physician, can testify, for he had been there before me, and I charge him, by that which he has in his bosom (if, indeed, he esteems it to be a holy relic) to say that I am innocent of all blame."

Master Walter was taken in a snare. He was not quick at shifts; and here the time allowed him to find one was so short that he might well be at a loss; so, in his fear that Muriel would expose his conduct, he admitted, with the worst possible grace, that he had quitted the cell shortly before Muriel entered it, that the ankeresse was dead.

(Continued on page 100.)



THE GODDESS OF DISCORD IN THE GARDEN OF THE HESPERIDES." PAINTED BY J. W. M. TURNER, R.A.—IN THE MARLBOROUGH HOUSE GALLERY.



"THE IVORY CARVER."—PAINTED BY E. H. WEHNERT.

MARLBOROUGH HOUSE. THE ADDITIONAL TURNERS.

WE were not without some apprehension that the cream of the Turner collection had been presented in the first set. We are happy to find, however, more than one truly capital work in this second contribution to the Marlborough House Gallery. If every succeeding quota has such sterling metal we will not be severe in dealing with the unavoidable alloy. In fact, we are almost happy, on artistic grounds, that there is not only great variety of subject, but great inequality of value. Even in the slightest and most sketchy performances we have the easy, playful vein, or slightly-expressed intention, of a vigorous potentiality.

The "Goddess of Discord in the Garden of the Hesperides" (1806). This is in his early manner; but does not remind one of Wilson, but of a compound of Salvator's Calabrian rocks and Duguet's Vales of Romagna; in short, one of the most superb combinations of Nature mirrored in schools of Art that imagination can conceive. This picture is full of grand invention; we are sensible of a feeling of sublimity in these beetling cliffs and thundercloud; while below we have the placid vale, with its chequered lights and umbrageous recesses. The figures, too, are excellent—far beyond the usual Turner. In his later pictures real men and women are as if wraiths of Children of the Mist; but here the Immortals are given with all the beauty and grace of the tangible flesh and blood of those delicious southern regions which furnished models for the chisel of a Phidias, and the pencil of a Nicholas Poussin. We need not trouble our readers with the classic legend. In none of the pictures of Turner is the story told with more distinctness. A dragon is a piece of machinery that either tells with great effect or provokes ridicule. Here this daring feat is successful. We do not deride, but curiously examine, the vaguely-defined monster, guardian of the fruit, who was destined in the sequel to be destroyed by Hercules; and we admit that one of the most difficult feats of painting has been accomplished. This work stands at the threshold of Turner's so-called classical style. Up to this time he had been almost exclusively a literal but magnificently vigorous transcriber of the scenes of home, the sunny vale of the Thames, the breezy downs of Surrey and Sussex, the bright-glistening seaboard of

the summer holidays, or the drenchy days of the Channel during the squalls of March or the gloom of November. No longer tied down by the effort to surmount technicality, he now ventures a bolder flight to the airy regions of fancy. Future ages and distant nations will not easily forget to note how high he flew and how long he continued on the wing! We understand that this picture is here engraved for the first time.

"Regulus Leaving Rome" (1837) bears also strong proofs of the idiosyncrasy of the fully-matured Turner. But it is not a feeble picture. If we have not the mastery of the impossible, we see the daring effort of genial conception and technical power to approach its limits. The picture is small, in superficies, but the subject is great and treated greatly; the figures are too small to be taken in detail, but the very name, "Regulus Leaving Rome," calls up a host of associations. The architecture is very striking. It is Martin's Assyrian and Egyptian masses Romanised for the occasion. The result in the hands of Turner has that effect which the reader may guess. The execution is interesting to the curious in painting. How astonishingly the flags of the ships are meters of the density of the fog between them and the buildings beyond!

"Ulysses Deriding Polyphemus" (1829). This is one of the grandest efforts of the master—the subject being taken from that immortal voyage which is the Patriarch of all Romant. A narrowly-understood Christianity leads us to look down with contempt on the mythology of the Greeks. Not so the sympathetic imagination of a more catholic Christianity, which can without effort look upwards to the religious sentiment and religious forms of the Greeks from the lower plane of darker ages, cruder intelligence, and the more ungraceful mythology of Baal and Osiris.

Ruddy sky, such as we never saw in any other picture, is graduated with fanlike expansion through magnificent floating clouds of gold in one part of the picture, which harmonisingly contrasts with cool, grey-tinted masses of supernatural shadow at the other extremity. A magnificence of invention and conception strikes at once upon the spectator. Great as the execution is we feel that form and colour have limits which do not express but rather shackle the soul of the poet-painter. This picture is more than Claude in execution,

and almost more than Milton in that power which lies in a vague impression of preternatural sublimity.

"THE IVORY CARVER."

PAINTED BY E. H. WEHNERT.

CHARLES BOKER, an American poet of some reputation, has furnished the subject of the picture by Mr. Wehnert which is faithfully reproduced in the above Engraving. The "Ivory Carver" is the name of the poem from which the incident is taken. The Carver, inspired by that devotional feeling which is known to have possessed many of those who have engaged upon works of a religious character, has abandoned himself entirely to the production of an ivory Christ, and in the accomplishment of this single object has allowed wife and children to perish from want. The bereaved husband and parent at last overcome the enthusiast, and he gives utterance to impious upbraidings upon the death of his children. After a time three stars descend from heaven, and thus the poet:—

Ah me! 'twas a mournful sight, to see
The three stars shining, so peacefully,
On the raging breast of him who poured
His puny wrath at our gracious Lord.
Awhile, with stubborn and wilful might,
The artist strove to drive from his sight
The kindly look of the starry trine;
Yet turn as he might, some power divine
Would soften his will—he knew not why—
And draw to the light his troubled eye.
Long, long he looked; till his heavy grief
Of heart gushed forth, and a full relief
Of balmy tear-drops fell, round on round
Like the blood which marks yet heals a wound.
He staggered, he bowed his stubborn knee,
He fixed his eyes on the shining three;
And the tears so magnified his gaze,
That the face of heaven seemed all ablaze
With light and mercy. He knew the stars
That looked through his earthly dungeon-bars.—
"I see, he shouted, "ye live, ye live:
Death is a phantom! O God, forgive!"

(Continued from page 97.)

when he found her, and that he had no doubt whatever that her death had arisen from natural causes. As the widow's son professed his entire concurrence in the latter opinion, and confirmed it, in a measure, by stating that his mother had been ill for some days, and bore a willing testimony to the uniform kindness of Muriel's disposition, one would have thought that her release must instantly have followed; but Master Ralph of the Oyster-gate was one to bray a case in a mortar. "He was by no means of opinion," he said, "that Muriel was to be held guiltless, and suffered to go free." Here a white hand came out from behind the crimson curtain, and, having got possession of his ear, fairly pulled his head inside. A smothered conversation ensued between himself and some person inside the curtain, whereof those in the body of the court heard no more than "Nay, but, good Maudie!" and "I tell thee, father," in tones alternately imploring and peremptory. At length the head of the Sheriff reappeared in court; and, with a struggle to appear unconcerned, he took up the broken thread of his discourse again.

"An attempt had been made," he said, "to influence the Court; but it had failed of its effect (here the crimson curtain shook vehemently, and something very like a laugh was heard to come from behind it); for he should adjudicate as he had intended throughout (and from that decision an army should not drive him), that the maid Muriel should be mulcted of one bezant, and ordered to confine herself within her father's house for the term of three days. And, if any one presumed to question that verdict, he should be put in mercy of the Sheriff."

Having delivered himself of this decision, he finally disappeared behind the curtain.

Cressy and Randolph would have had some difficulty in escorting Muriel through the crowd, but the court-house, and we have seen, had two doors, whereof one opened into Cornhill, and the other into Lombard-street; and Maudie made it her business to get them out into the last-named street, which was comparatively clear, as the mob had expected that the prisoner would come out of the principal door; when, therefore, as the court was cleared, and the various parties who had taken part in the trial came out into Cornhill, the disappointment of the populace, both at the verdict and at the non-appearance of Muriel, was very great. "To the devil with this Sheriff!" cried the sokenreeve. "To the devil with him, I say! If this Jewess did not murder the ankeresse, who shall say what evil practices she meant to put upon the poor dumb body? We have heard of Jewesses who fed on Christians." A hoarse roar of approval, told that he had touched the hearts of the crowd. "They crucified a child at York!" shouted one. "And another at Winchester!" cried a second. "And three at Bury!" bellowed a third. "They clip the coin, and defraud the poor labourers thereby!" said Americo of Pavia, the money-changer. "They take interest at 45 per cent!" added Renaud of Cahors, who never took less than 50 per cent. "They own the best houses in London, and pay no tithes thereon!" cried the priest of St. Martin, in Ironmonger-lane. "They know great secrets in medicine and will not impart them to Christians!" put in Master Walter, the physician. "They are richer than the nobles, and will soon be masters of the kingdom!" was the cry of a thousand voices. "And," shouted the burly Stephen Buckeler, "they are the enemies of our good Lord and friend, Simon de Montfort. To your bills and bows, good citizens, and let us smoke these bloodsuckers from their nest." "Away! away!" shouted the mob, "let us go get our weapons, and then to the Jewry!" And in a few minutes Cornhill was deserted.

The events which I have described had occupied so much time that the evening was closing in, ere Cressy and Muriel arrived at the house of the latter. The Rabbi had been terribly alarmed by the absence of his child, and the explanations which she gave of it distressed him still more. It was nearly dark before she had succeeded in calming him, and Cressy was beginning reluctantly to talk of leaving them, when a neighbour, Benoni, of Bread-street, came in and said, "Honourable Rabbi, our people will need your counsel and presence. There is much stir in the City, and large bodies of armed citizens are in the streets. There is talk, I hear, of an attack on our quarter; and thou knowest that in these unsettled times, those who are opposed to the King, hate us as his instruments. I fear me, we shall be sore bested to-night."

"I will go forth," said the Rabbi, "I will speak with this wild people. Peradventure, they will hear the words of the sage."

"Oh! my father," cried Muriel, "they will but dishonour thy grey hairs. Thou knowest not what hideous faces scowled at me to-day as I was led through the streets. The very women had lost the semblance of their sex, and spat on me as I passed. But hark!"

Even while she spoke there came up in the wind a roar like that of a stormy sea, and in another instant their street, usually so quiet, was alive with their people, who ran hastily towards either end of it, shouting as they went, "To the chains! to the chains!" The Jews, trained to expect repeated outrages from the violence of the Christian citizens, had provided the end of every street in their quarter which debouched on the districts inhabited by Christians, with a strong barrier of posts and chains, which might be drawn across the streets during any outbreak; and it was for these chains that they were making.

"I will go forth," cried the Rabbi, as he tried to release himself from his daughter. "I will go forth and bless the people of God; and though my hands may not use the spear and the bow, yet will I look on the battle, that I may speak in my book of the 'Tribulations' of the valour of our fighting men, so that those who come after us may know that the glory is not yet departed from Judah."

"You shall not go!" shrieked Muriel, as she wound her arms round him.

"Cressy, by all you love best, I entreat, I command you to stay and keep my father here. If we must die, let us die together."

The young man now assisted her to retain her father, and after a time the Rabbi became somewhat more calm. The hoarse roar of the distant crowd, which for a time had appeared to be drawing nearer and nearer, now became stationary and waxed louder and fiercer than ever. The assailants had reached the barriers, where they were encountered by the Jews, who fighting with the ancient valour of their race, and rendered desperate by the greatness of their peril, contrived to hold the Christians at bay for some minutes. But they were mostly men of quiet, sedentary pursuits, and but ill fitted to cope with the sturdy mechanics and artisans, whose thews were hardened by their daily toil. Gradually the barriers were broken, and every street in the Jews' quarter, was filled with a dense crowd of combatants, fighting hand to hand for every inch of ground; but, in the darkness of the night, dealing wounds as often to friend as to foe. Suddenly a bright light flashed out from a spot hard by the Rabbi's house, and Muriel looking out, saw many of her friends struggling wildly in the mêlée, with despair upon their upturned faces. Seeing that the crowd was sweeping onwards to the spot whence the light came, she leaned from the casement, but quickly drew in her head.

"They have fired the Synagogue (see engraving)," she said quietly, "and it will be our turn next. Cressy! I will comfort my father."

The old Rabbi was standing by the table at which he had passed so many hours of his life, with his hand upon his darling manuscript. He patted it affectionately and sorrowfully, and spoke as though it could comprehend him. "They will burn thee," he said, "and that is very hard to bear. I could have borne to die, for that my hour was appointed for me from the beginning; but I had looked that thou shouldst live after me, and that in thee, the old Rabbi and his daughter should be made known to their people. Therefore have I risen early, and taken rest late, and laboured exceedingly over thee, that thou mightest be worthy of me, and procure for me and for my daughter a good report among men. And now of all my labour, what shall remain unto me? Verily, I have—"

He could say no more. Muriel clasped him round the neck. "My father!" said she, "Listen to us! Cressy and I have somewhat to tell thee, before we die. We are—"

At that moment the door of their house was violently burst open, and they heard the sound of many footsteps on the stairs. The Rabbi closed his darling volume, took it in his arms, and clasped it tightly to his breast. Cressy folded Muriel to his heart, and the three were silent.

As they thus waited calmly for death to come and strike them, a man rushed hurriedly into the room. It was Hagen, the brother of Elias.

"The Registers!" he cried wildly, "Where are the Registers? O! my brother! let us save the Registers. When I heard it rumoured

that the Gentiles were about to assail us, I bethought me that if I could save the Registers, we could afford to give our houses and our chattels to the fire. I went down to the Constable of the Tower, and said unto him, that the Registers were with thee, and that an they were destroyed, all the property of the Jews of London, and all the King's interest therein, would be gone for ever. And he has come with a band of armed men, to save the Registers, and behold the men wait without to carry them. O! my brother, let us save them, or we perish utterly."

As he spoke the soldiers entered, and their leader, to whom the Rabbi was known, said, "Honourable Master Elias, we have come to convey thee and thine to a place of safety."

"And the Registers," shrieked Hagen, in an agony of nervous terror. "Which be they, O! my brother? Speak quickly, for the enemy is at hand."

The Rabbi pointed to several volumes, with which the soldiers speedily loaded themselves. "This," said Elias, with a quiet smile, "which I bear with me, is the most precious of them all, I will continue to carry it."

"The most precious," screamed Hagen, returning—for, having secured the Registers, he would have left his brother to his fate. "The most precious! O! my brother, is it not a record of what is due to thy brother Hagen? Thou wilt not speak, but thy smile tells me I am right. Good men of war, surround well the Rabbi, my brother; he carries the most precious of his Registers. Muriel, look well to thy father! Thou canst not value him enough. Cressy, my son, as thou lovest me, take care of thine uncle! He is the head of our house! Let us be going!"

The whole party moved down the stairs. At the door the soldiers formed into a hollow square, in the centre of which they placed those who carried the registers, Elias, Hagen, Cressy, and Muriel. They marched towards the Tower. Frequently they had to halt and fight with the crowd which pressed upon them. Yells and execrations greeted them at every step; and showers of stones, and even blazing torches were hurled upon them, from the house-tops. Within the hollow square Hagen went and came, encouraged the soldiers by the promise of rewards, warding off missiles from his brother, and urged the whole party to increased speed. His features, his gestures, his words, were those of a madman, or, perhaps, of a demon, such as would guard the treasure buried by the guilty, and scare the treasure-seekers from it. But the Rabbi was as calm as though he were going to his place in the Synagogue. There was an elevation in his look which touched even the rough soldiers with respect for the old man who could look unmoved on such peril.

CHAPTER III.

When the sun rose on the morning following that eventful night the ruins of the Synagogue and of the best houses in the quarter, and the dead bodies of 700 Jews, bore witness to the fervent zeal of the Christian mob. The rioters, unmolested by the civic authorities (for our friend Ralph of the Oyster-gate was so terrified at sight of the devil which his words had raised, that he shut himself up in his own house), and carrying with them much valuable property, retired at an early hour to their own homes, and left those Jews who had escaped their fury, to bury their dead and calculate their losses. Elias, with his brother, nephew, and daughter, having reached the Tower in safety, had been lodged by the Constable, not in that building itself, but in a house in its precincts belonging to those who kept the chest, in which the Jews, on becoming possessed of any mortgage deed, or obligation of debt, were bound to lay up that portion of the parchment to which the seal was appended, and on which portion was noted simply the amount of the debt or obligation—care being taken at the same time to ensure its identification by placing a number upon it corresponding with one on the superior portion of the deed, and with another in the Register. The house occupied by the custodians of this chest was large, and could easily give shelter to its new inmates; so that such of their people as came to visit them on the morning after the riot found them already installed in a spacious sitting-room, on the floor of which were deposited the precious Registers, to save which Hagen had toiled so hard. The whole party had spent the night in this room. Hagen, still anxious lest some stray parties of the mob should follow them to their resting-place, paced the room hurriedly, or peered out into the darkness, or shuddered as the sounds of the distant conflict were borne up on the wind. Cressy and Muriel found much to say to each other. The Rabbi, stretched on the floor, and with his head pillowed on his beloved volume, slept the sleep of the just. His brother, still possessed by the idea that the book so cherished was one of the Registers, could not sufficiently admire the Rabbi's vigilant care for it, and conceived quite another opinion of his character than that which he had hitherto entertained. "God of my fathers!" said he, "how have I been mistaken in this man! I thought him a dreamer, lost in the follies of the philosophers—one who would squander a life on an inquiry into the principle of existence, and occupy so much time in defining the nature of the *summum bonum* as to leave himself no leisure to seek it when defined. But I find him as sensible of the real business of life, as careful for the interests of his house, as I have been; nay! whereas I have ever been unmindful of his interests, he has returned me good for evil, by defending with his body that precious record of my property."

Thus did our several friends pass the night; but with the morning came many of their people to tell them of all that had befallen after they left the Jewry.

"Alas!" said Chera, of Bread-street, "we are utterly undone. The Christians have carried off our gold and silver, our wearing apparel, and even our cups and platters. That which was too heavy to bear away they broke outright; and all our manuscripts have they burned, and the parchments, wherein they have acknowledged their debts to us, have they consumed with fire; neither is there any hope for us now on this side of the grave."

"Care not for the household stuff, good Chera," said Hagen, "for we will spoil the Christians anew; and that which was of silver shall be of gold, and that which was of gold shall be indented with jewels. For, good Chera, know that we have here the Registers. But, how now?" continued Hagen, in astonishment, as, on approaching the table at which his brother was seated, he found him writing in the supposed Register—"How now? Surely, on a morning like this, thou canst not have to record in that precious volume any fresh acquisition of property by a Jew? What art thou writing?"

The Rabbi answered, without looking up from his work, "I am writing of the 'Tribulations of Judah,' my brother."

"Dotard!" shrieked Hagen, whose rage on finding that he had been so egregiously mistaken was unbounded. "Had I known what thou wert burdening thyself with, I swear by the graves of our parents I would have thrown it amongst the flames of the first blazing house we had passed. Thou hast deceived me grossly."

"Hagen," said the Rabbi, "I have more reason to complain that thou hast deceived me. I thought thee kind, and thou wouldst have me believe thee as hard as the nether millstone. I thought thou hadst a corner in thy heart for thy brother and his families, and thou wouldst have me believe now that thou art swallowed up in selfishness. But I can acknowledge my errors; though in this case I do so most reluctantly. Say, then, my brother, shall I add these words to what I have written—'And behold! the Rabbi Elias found that his brother Hagen cared not for him, and that the blessing wherewith he had blessed Hagen was odious to him?' Dost thou wish that the people who come after us should believe my last words of thee, or those which I at first wrote, my brother?"

Hagen turned away in silence; and, though he did not again treat the Rabbi with cordiality, he never more reproached him for having saved the book of the "Tribulations of Judah."

The houses of Elias and Hagen had suffered so greatly in the riot that their owners were unable to return to them, and continued to occupy separate sets of rooms in the house of the chest-keepers. Hagen seldom saw, and less frequently spoke to, his brother; but he tolerated the little attentions which Muriel, who could not forget that he was Cressy's father, showed him from time to time; and even condescended to employ her in writing for him, when he had occasion for her services.

The battle of Evesham, by restoring the ascendancy of the King over his nobles, had now relieved the Jews from the apprehension of any further outrages at the hands of the popular party; and, as Hagen had foreseen, the King readily granted his trusty and faithful Jews permission to take out of the public chests such of their frag-

ments of deeds as their pressing necessities required them to convert into money. The Jews, whose own books of account had been destroyed in the fire, now came to the Registers to repair that loss; and Muriel made herself useful to her uncle by transcribing from her father's books an account of all the moneys due to the old usurer. During her prosecution of this task, Muriel discovered that her old acquaintance Master Walter, the physician, was indebted to her uncle in the sum of two thousand marks, for which he had passed two chirographs, the superior portions of which had been destroyed by the rioters, whilst the remaining parts, with the seals, were yet in the public chest.

The Rabbi employed his whole time, as heretofore, in polishing and perfecting his great work; but, as if to furnish him with an ever-fresh supply of important facts, Providence had still in store for him and for his daughter vicissitudes more remarkable than any which they had yet experienced. The King had no sooner regained his authority than he proceeded "to take the City into his own hands;" that is, he revoked the lease of the civic revenues, annually granted by him to the Sheriffs for a rent of five hundred pounds. As this rent was always paid in advance, and as the King never refunded one penny of it, when, in his displeasure, he resumed the management of the revenues out of which the citizens had hoped to reimburse themselves, this seizure of the City into the hands of Royalty was as disagreeable as it was frequent; and, upon one pretext or another, it befel the citizens about once in every five years. In the present instance, the assault upon the King's Jewish property was one of the pretexts adduced in explanation of this mark of the Royal anger; but, as the Crown was just then in great want of money, it was discovered that the Jews had erred greatly, inasmuch as their growing wealth had tempted the Christians to attack them; and a very heavy tallage was accordingly imposed on them. The poor Jews now saw why the King had so graciously accorded to them permission to deal with the fragments of their deeds as though they had been the deeds themselves. He had, in fact, only granted them permission to collect the money which he now sought to extort from them. Overwhelmed by this new calamity, and terrified by the evident determination of the people to curtail their privileges, and of the Crown to withdraw its protection from them, the Jews took a step on which they had never yet ventured, and sent a deputation to remonstrate with the King on the injustice of taxing them so heavily when they were least able to comply with his demands; and to beg that, as he seemed determined to destroy them utterly, he would, in mercy, allow them to leave the country, and seek a less tyrannical master in another land. The spokesman of the deputation was the Rabbi Elias, who acquitted himself, as might have been expected, with more zeal than discretion. The King could scarcely control his anger, and dismissed the deputation without a word of reply. But as soon as they were gone from his presence he caused inquiries to be made as to the property of the speaker whose freedom had so greatly offended him; and it was very speedily bruited abroad that the King could not afford to allow of the departure of his useful servants, the wealthy Jews; but that the petition of the Rabbi Elias, who had no property worthy of the King's notice, would be granted, in so far as it concerned himself; and that he and his daughter Muriel would, in a few days at the most, be banished from the realm. Nay, it was even added by those who knew most of such matters, that the rich Hagen, instead of using his influence to retain his brother and niece in the kingdom, had actually counselled their banishment, though none of those who reported so ill of him pretended to understand the motives of his conduct. Muriel, however, put her own interpretation upon her uncle's unbrotherly behaviour, and judged rightly that he had a glimmering of Cressy's affection for her, and wished to effect their separation. She knew so well her uncle's character, that she had never hoped to obtain his consent to her marriage with Cressy; but she had thought that the day might come when her cousin would be able to raise a sum sufficient to purchase the King's approval of their union. But now that she was threatened with banishment, she knew not what to do; she could not expect the company of her betrothed husband, for no Jew could leave the kingdom, save by Royal permission, and that could only be obtained by the payment of a heavy fine. Her old conviction that her father could not help her, and her dislike to lead him into any line of conduct that might embroil him further with his brother or the King, hindered her from disclosing her secret to him; Cressy, she knew, would have followed her to the ends of the earth if he could have purchased the papers, without which it was impossible for him to pass the ports, but where could they obtain the money required for that purpose. Muriel was in despair. After a night passed in anxious thought, she rose with an aching head, and determined to try if a walk in the fresh air of the morning would bring any alleviation of her mental or bodily pain. Passing out of the postern gate, by the Tower, into East Smithfield, she walked for awhile by the vineyard belonging to the Constable of the Tower, and then walked on, in the direction of Aldgate, until she reached the garden of the Priory of the Holy Trinity, which was screened from the passengers on the public road by a wall something more than six feet in height. As she skirted along the wall, the voices of two persons who were walking on the inner side of it fell upon her ear. One was strangely familiar to her, and whilst she was endeavouring to remember where and when she had heard it, her eye caught sight of the speaker's cap, which rose two or three inches above the wall. "It must be the Christian leech," thought she, "who so covets my prescriptions. I know of none so tall as he." All doubt on the subject was, in another instant, removed from her mind by the other speaker, who said, in an accent that plainly told him to be a foreigner—

"But, Master Walter, I must have you to consider that the money which I lent to you was that of our Holy Father the Pope; and that, if you pay it not back, you hinder his Holiness from performing works of charity therewith. It were a grave sin, Master Walter, to stand between his Holiness and the poor."

"I doubt it not, Sir Renaud of Cahors," said the leech; "therefore, of your courtesy, stand not between his Holiness and me, for I am even as poor a man as he would find on a summer's day; and, as I have already spent his money, it will be less trouble to him to bestow it on me than on another."

"I fear, Master Walter," was the stern answer, "that you have but a poor sense of religion. Will you pay the Holy Father, or must I speak to the King?"

"Nay! I will pay," returned the leech surlily; "but his Holiness, methinks, might have a little more patience with me!"

"That would he," said the Caorsin, "if he were thine only creditor, but thou art guilty of owing money to the Jew Hagen, and the Holy Father has enjoined me to be very strict with such as borrow of the Jews."

"Well, then," answered Master Walter, "he may with a clear conscience grant me a little longer grace, for the King's Majesty was so well pleased with the medicine which I administered to him but a week back, that he has promised to cancel me the two bonds which I passed to the Jew Hagen."

Not a word of their conversation had been lost upon Muriel, but she had grown weary of it, and was about to pass on, when the announcement of the King's benevolent intentions towards her uncle Hagen roused her curiosity once more, and rooted her to the spot.

"Thy medicine please the King!" laughed the Caorsin; "why, what didst thou ever compound that was worth more than the dust on thy shoe-tie? The King's Majesty could not have been very sick if thy medicaments could serve."

"Well, to be plain with thee," pursued Walter, "I got the drug of a Hebrew maiden, one Muriel, the daughter of the Rabbi Elias."

"And the niece of Hagen!" said the Caorsin; "and with the credit thou hast gained by the help of the niece, thou art about to rob the uncle. Dost call that gratitude, Master Walter?"

"That do I; for, as thou mayest have heard, the dog uncle hath used his influence at Court to promote the banishment of his brother and niece. My Muriel shall be revenged on him, through me!"

"Hark thee, Master Walter," said the virtuous native of Cahors, thou shalt make over to me the prescription which the maid Muriel gave unto thee; and, therefore, I will renew the loan to thee for yet another three months; but, as the interests of his Holiness the Pope must not suffer, thou must pay me fifteen hundred, instead of twelve hundred and fifty marks, at the end of the stipulated time."

"Blessed Virgin!" thought Master Walter, ruefully; "why did I leave to borrow money of the Jews, and betake me to this cornorant? Master Renaud," continued he aloud, "I will take until to-morrow to consider of thy terms, and give thee my answer. They are hard terms; but I may find it in my heart to comply with them



CITIZENS OF LONDON WALKING IN THE PLEASANT PASTURES OF SMETHEFELDE.

For the present, however, we will go in and have some talk with the Prior."

When Muriel heard Master Walter's last speech, she divined his intention as readily as if he had uttered his thoughts aloud. "It is clear," thought she, "that he means to visit me between this and to-morrow to try if he can win my knowledge from me. O, Cressy! if I might but carry thee away with me, far from these bad men! Ha! Do I not see a way to manage that? Heaven give me wit to work out my purpose; for I am sore bested, and the wicked compass me round about."

She walked rapidly towards her home. Her look was more thoughtful, but less sorrowful, than when she had set out in the morning; and her whole manner was that of one who had escaped from the torment of doubt, and was steadfastly bent upon the development of a settled plan. Her father had, as he thought, news for her that would grieve her much: for, during her absence, he had received an order from the King to quit England within three days. But Muriel expressed neither surprise nor grief; she did her best to cheer her father; and when the poor old Rabbi recorded in his book that the King had been pleased to banish him, he added the following comment on that melancholy text:—"And the Rabbi Elias was sorely grieved, for he had hoped to lay his bones by the side of Belasez, the daughter of Aaron, whom he had to wife, and who lay buried in the cemetery of the Jews, which was without the city of London, and near unto the gate called Cripple-gate; but Muriel, his daughter, rejoiced, for that she hoped to see many cities, and the manners of strange countries; and for that it is the nature of the young to seek after change; but, of the old to love quiet, and to abide near the home of their youth."

While he was delivering himself of these profound thoughts Muriel sought her uncle, who received her with a well-feigned appearance of regret for her approaching separation from him. Muriel thanked him for his kindness, and assured him that it only made her regret the more a misfortune which, to her certain knowledge, was about to fall upon him. The old man was terribly alarmed. At another time Muriel would have amused herself with his fears, but moments were too precious now, so she told him without further parley how she had heard Master Walter, the physician, say that the King had promised to cancel his debt to her uncle. Hagen was furious at this intelligence. He tore his hair, and stamped about the room so madly, that Muriel began to fear she should never be able to compose him. At last an idea occurred to him—"Had she informed any one else of what she had heard? She had not. Good! Then his course was plain. He would take Master Walter's chirographs (or, rather, the inferior portions of them) out of the public chest and sell them. Thus, when they were cancelled, the loss would fall on the buyer of them only. His good Muriel could assist him in this scheme. She could sell them for him, for as she was to leave England in four days, no ill consequences could accrue to her from the act."

But Muriel now held back. "She knew not why she should risk her fame for him, who had never given her anything. Nay—people said that he had helped to bring about the banishment of her father and herself! No; she had warned him, but she would not help him!"

Her well-feigned reluctance drew on her uncle. He made offers; which she rejected in turn, as inadequate to the service for which they were to be given, and, in short, managed him so well, that within an hour of her return home Master Walter's two chirographs were in her hands; and her uncle had promised that, could she sell them, she should have one-half their value, which, as I before said, was two thousand marks. These preliminaries arranged, she betook herself to the quarter of the house inhabited by her father and herself; and there confidently awaited the visit of Master Walter, the physician.

He was not long in making his appearance, and Muriel noted, with secret delight, the anxiety under which he laboured, and of which she so well knew the cause. To bring him the more quickly to the point, she commented upon his evident perturbation, and expressed a hope that he was not in trouble or ill health. Charmed to find her so affable, the leech replied, "that she herself was the cause of his embarrassment—that he had heard of her approaching banishment, and that he was filled with grief at the idea of losing so able a coadjutor. It was not to be expected that he could cure all the sick of the city, by his unassisted skill; and now Muriel was going there would be no one to help him. Still, if she trusted him with her prescriptions, she might rest assured that it would be the better for the poor among her own people."

"Ah! Muriel did not dare to listen to him. If her people knew that she had imparted any such secrets to him they would never forgive her. Yet she would have wished to oblige him, as she had occasion for money, and her time was short. She held two chirographs for a thousand marks each, and she wished to sell them. Could not Master Walter advance her the money on them?"

"Would she share that medical knowledge with him, if he procured the money for her chirographs?"

"Yes, if by that afternoon he brought her two thousand marks for her chirographs—she would give him some advice, by following which

he would become the happiest and richest man in England. But he must be cautious not to let her people get wind of the affair, or they would kill her."

So Master Walter, taking the chirographs with him, set off to raise the money upon them. Of course, he betook himself to his friend the Caorsin. But he had great difficulty in inducing that worthy to advance the money until Walter confessed that the King had promised to grant him the message in the Jewry formerly in the possession of the Rabbi Elias and that the grant was to be made as soon as the old priest had left the country. He would assign that message to the man who should advance him two thousand marks on the chirographs in question. The scruples of the Caorsin vanished when Master Walter made a formal assignment of the promised message; and, before nightfall, Muriel had received the two thousand marks, one half of which she handed over to her uncle.

Meanwhile Muriel had placed her thousand marks in Cressy's hands. She would not tell him whence she had obtained it, for, said she, "He shall never have to reproach himself with having cheated his father." "Go, Cressy," said she, "purchase for thyself the papers which thou wilt require to pass the ports unquestioned; and then seek out Randolph Hardel, in whose ship a passage is taken for my father and myself. Tell him how the case stands with us, and ask him, for the love he bears to his Maude, to carry thee with us; and be sure to tell him that those who are betrothed are, by our people, held to be united for ever, and then he will not think me so bold in wishing to take thee with me; and, for the next two days, my Cressy, let us not be seen together, lest thy father suspect our plans; but, when they are past, we will part no more for ever."

Cressy would fain have known whence she obtained the money; but she made answer that it was her own, and that there was no time to talk of it then; so the young man set off to carry out her plans.

On the third morning after the day on which Muriel had transacted so much business, and before the sun had well risen, a little knot of persons was assembled at the Oyster-gate, in Thames-street. It was

composed of Elias, Muriel, Randolph Hardel, pretty Mistress Maude, and our good friend Master Walter. He had kept a sharp eye upon Muriel's movements during the preceding days, but had seen nothing in her conduct to excite suspicion. He had now, as he said to Elias, just looked down to say farewell to his old friends; and the honest Rabbi, albeit he disliked the man, could not help being touched by an attention which none of his own people had shown him. "Verily," said the Rabbi, to himself, "verily, I may say 'there is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother.' This Christian has come out of his bed to take a last look at the old Rabbi, whilst Hagen, the son of my mother, has, if men do not belie him, worked hard to rid the kingdom of me."

"Here comes our boat," said Randolph Hardel, as the Rabbi's thoughts took this uncomfortable turn. "Here comes the boat, and she will soon carry us to the *Bonny Maude*, which lies below bridge. Bless thee, Maude, my maiden. Let me buss thee; once—twice—there, and three times too! There are none here to blab of it. And now, hie thee back to thy bed, before thy father, the good Sheriff, wakes, and wants his morning draught. Now, venerable Rabbi, mind where thou art going, or thou wilt plump to the bottom instead of into the boat, and we have small time to fish thee up again. And thou, too, Mistress Muriel, leave talking with the potticar, and let my mate here help thee into the boat."

Muriel put a sealed paper into Master Walter's hand. "If thou dost follow the directions herein contained," said she, "there will be none in this town whom thou needest envy. Farewell!"

She stepped into the boat, and the sturdy arms of the rowers rapidly swept it below the bridge.

In a minute Master Walter was joined by the Caorsin: "Let us see," said the latter, "what this Jewess hath bequeathed to thee. Nay! no shrinking, man. Hast thou forgotten our compact?" And, snatching it from Master Walter's unwilling hand, he opened it. It was covered over with closely-written characters; and the heart of the leech beat quickly, for he thought that Muriel had left him all her receipts. The Caorsin read a few lines, and then dashed the



THE CAORSIN SEIZING MASTER WALTER BY THE THROAT.



THE FIRING AND SACKING OF THE SYNAGOGUE.

paper on the ground. "Fooled! fooled!" he cried; and would have trampled it under his feet; but the leech, with trembling hands, picked it up, and read:—

"Master Walter,—I entreat your attention to the following sentences. Whoso treasures them in his inmost soul, and makes them the rule of his daily life, will have what is better than fine gold—namely, a clear conscience and a contented mind:—

"Be not wise in thine own eyes. Fear God and depart from evil. It shall be health to thy body and marrow to thy bones."

"Wealth gotten by vanity shall be diminished; but he that getteth it by labour shall increase."

"The getting of treasure by a lying tongue is a vanity tossed to and fro of them that seek death."

"Happy is the man that getteth wisdom, and the man that findeth understanding. For the merchandise of it is greater than the merchandise of silver and the gain thereof than fine gold."

Master Walter could read no more. He flung the paper wildly in the air, and would have rushed from the spot; but the Caorsin caught him by the throat (*see Engraving*). "Miserable quack-salver!" cried he; "whose were the chirographs on which I lent thee two thousands marks?"

The leech could not reply, for his companion's question filled him with a horrid foreboding. Need I say that his fears were well founded; and that, when this precious pair compared the numbers on the chirographs with the corresponding numbers in the Register, they found that Master Walter had pledged once more the chirographs which the King had promised to cancel, and had plunged himself still further into such a labyrinth of debt as nothing short of absolute repudiation could free him from?

Nevertheless, if to be remembered in the prayers of a good man could avail Master Walter in anything, that privilege was his, for Muriel never imparted to her father the reasons which had prompted the leech to accompany them to the shore; and, in after years when (in

their comfortable house in the good city of Toledo, where Cressy had found employment with a Jewish merchant) the old Rabbi offered up prayers for his darling Muriel and for Cressy, whom he now loved for Muriel's sake, and for the grand-children whom Muriel had taught to love and honour him, the simple-minded old man would often recur to the Christian who had displayed so strange an interest in them; would read the amused Muriel a long lecture upon the impropriety of forming hasty dislikes on too slight grounds, and point his moral with a fervent prayer that fortune would wait on the efforts of one in whose character he himself had been greatly mistaken; but whom he was now proud to call his "good friend, Master Walter, the physician."

NOTE.—I think it right to inform the readers of the foregoing tale that I have been guilty of altering the date of one of its principal events. The attack on the Jewry took place in the year preceding, and not in the same year with the Battle of Evesham.



MURIEL PUTTING THE SEALED PAPER INTO MASTER WALTER'S HAND.